The monthly magazine for children

GOKULAM

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GOKULAM

Vol. XI, No. 11 MAY 1999

Dear children,

After a difficult academic year full of hard work, holidays are welcome, and you would naturally want to enjoy them.

All the same one has to remember that two months is a long, long time. When you sum up the holidays during your entire student days it would be a sizeable part of your whole life!

Such a lengthy period should not be wasted in frivolous activities. Plan your holiday, so that you benefit by it, while enjoying it.

There may be so many things you had planned to do, but kept putting off owing to lack of time. These can be listed and the more important can be taken up first.

- *Select interesting yet classical books for reading. There are so many classics retold in simple english.*
- *Watch National Geographic, Discovery or such informative channels for may be a couple of hours each day.*
- *Try to learn some computer lessons or practise playing a musical instrument guided by someone who has mastered the art.*
- *Begin a hobby if you do not have one already. Stamp collection is one of the more interesting and useful hobbies.*

- *There will surely be a game in which you are interested, like cricket or hockey. Learn the techniques with the help of a coach instead of just playing it for fun.*

There will be several such useful activities to pursue if only you apply your mind in that direction.

Above all find time each day to talk to your parents. You can tell them many interesting anecdotes from your school life or you can discuss your activities of the day. Ask them about their day at the office. Find out if they have any problem either at home or at their work place.

Don't think that it is their problem and that you have nothing to do with it! Recall how much they have sacrificed for your bright future. Should you not in turn try to make their lives a little more worthwhile? You may not be in a position to solve their problems, but even the simple fact that you are taking some interest, will give them immense strength.

Love,

K. Rajendran,
Editor

Of all created things the loveliest,
And most divine are children.
— William Canton

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Cover Illustration : LALITHA

LETTER BOX

✉ I am a regular reader of your magazine. I am interested in contributing to your magazine. Can I send in my contribution?

Gopi L. Krishna,
IX A, The Hyderabad PS,
Hyderabad

✉ I want to send some stories and jokes. I don't know how to send it.

B.Asma Sultana,
VIII C,
Vellayan Chettiar HSS,
Chennai.

Dear Gopi and Asma,

You can send in your contributions any time. Please include your name, age or class, name of school and your full house address.

If even one of these details is omitted, your contribution will be rejected.

If you want your contribution returned to you (if not selected) then please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

✉ Thank you for publishing my puzzle in March '99 issue. I would like to send in an entry for the comics section. Can I just write the dialogues?

S. Poorni, Std XI,
Adarsh Vidhyalaya,
Chennai.

Dear Poorni,

You can send in your story. We have a panel of artists who will do the sketches. The dialogues to go with the story will be based on the pictures.

- Ed.

DO WE LOVE WARS?

Two major inventions brought with them much unhappiness. Man will continue to smart under them unless he finds a cure .

This millennium is coming to an end. It is only natural that we look back at these inventions. While Nobel's invention was considered dangerous from the beginning, the other invention ushered into the world total destruction that could leave an entire population crippled.

What has war given to us except pain? I am reminded of an aunt whose brothers were employed in the army. One of her brothers died fighting in the war.

Every one at home (not just his family) adored the boy who had died. They called him a true patriot. His friends wished that they should meet with the same kind of end. Is 'war' a nice word then?

We read in history books about men who gave their life for their country. They fought because their leaders believed they had a cause. So many were killed. The sorrow of losing a loved one was nothing compared to the praise showered on the man who lost his life fighting.

In the battlefield two groups fight. An amazing thing about war is no member of one group knows the members of the other group.

Yet they fight. They believe their country is in grave danger. Have we ever stopped to think that across the borders (they are all man-made) there are human beings like us? They have feelings, they have families and they have dreams and hopes. Everything is laid to dust simply because some people believe they are threatened.

In fact, if you read history most wars were fought by kings or men weilding power because these men wanted absolute power.

Take the world wars I and II. Or our own battles of Panipat or Kalinga. Ashoka wanted war because he wanted to annex a kingdom.

What happens after a war? Many soldiers are handicapped. They become jobless. Nobody knows why the war was fought.

Sometimes families are uprooted from their homes. People may never see their loved ones again. War only means misplaced patriotism.

The economy breaks down, prices soar and governments spend plenty of money in rebuilding cities devastated by war. Despite the many wars, people rarely learn from history.

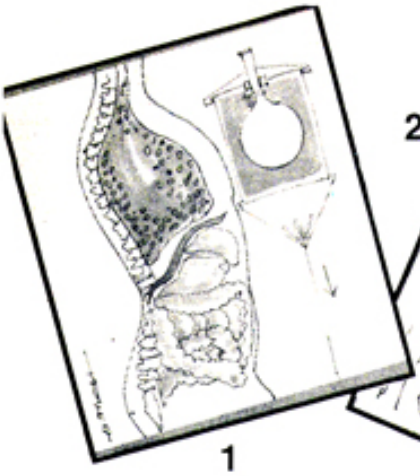
Nations continue to prepare for wars. Every nation builds up its defence mechanism. Every government defends its expenses saying "What if there be war?" Yet everyday all leaders say there is no threat of war.

We haven't learnt much from our past. We glorify our soldiers for their efforts. We decorate them with medals. We continue to prepare ourselves for the next war. It is almost as if we love wars!

After writing this I returned home. And what do I find? My people at home were watching a war movie! An old man recalls incidents from his days during world war II. My nephew was busy playing soldier and my neighbour's daughter was drawing a battleship! We only profess to hate war! We don't really hate it!

R. Sujatha

RESPIRATION & CIRCULATION



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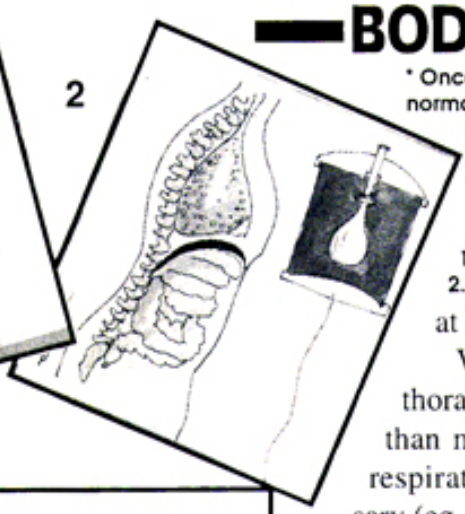
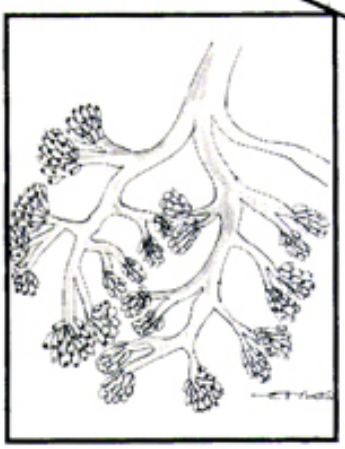


2

* Once every four seconds in normal breathing the lungs are made to expand by the diaphragm and the chest muscles. The balloons explain how lungs function.
1. Inspiration
2. Expiration



* The extreme ends of bronchioles in the lungs.

When Bhavana inhales air, her lungs expand. When air rushes into the lungs from the upper air passages, the diaphragm compresses the contents of the abdomen. Air is drawn into the lungs.

In normal breathing lungs expand once in every four seconds. During exercise, when more oxygen is needed, respiration takes place at a faster rate.

Women use their thorax muscles more often than men. When artificial respiration becomes necessary (eg. when a person drowning is rescued), the person's arms are moved up and down to bring about the necessary enlargement of the thorax.

By enlarging the thorax the lungs are inflated. Once air has been taken in the muscles recoil and the diaphragm returns to its original position. When this happens air is expelled out. This is called expiration.

Coughing — when a particle

* Water could enter the air passage and cause one to cough

irritates the mucous membrane, it (the particle) is forced up the glottis sending a strong current of air through the mouth. This is called coughing.

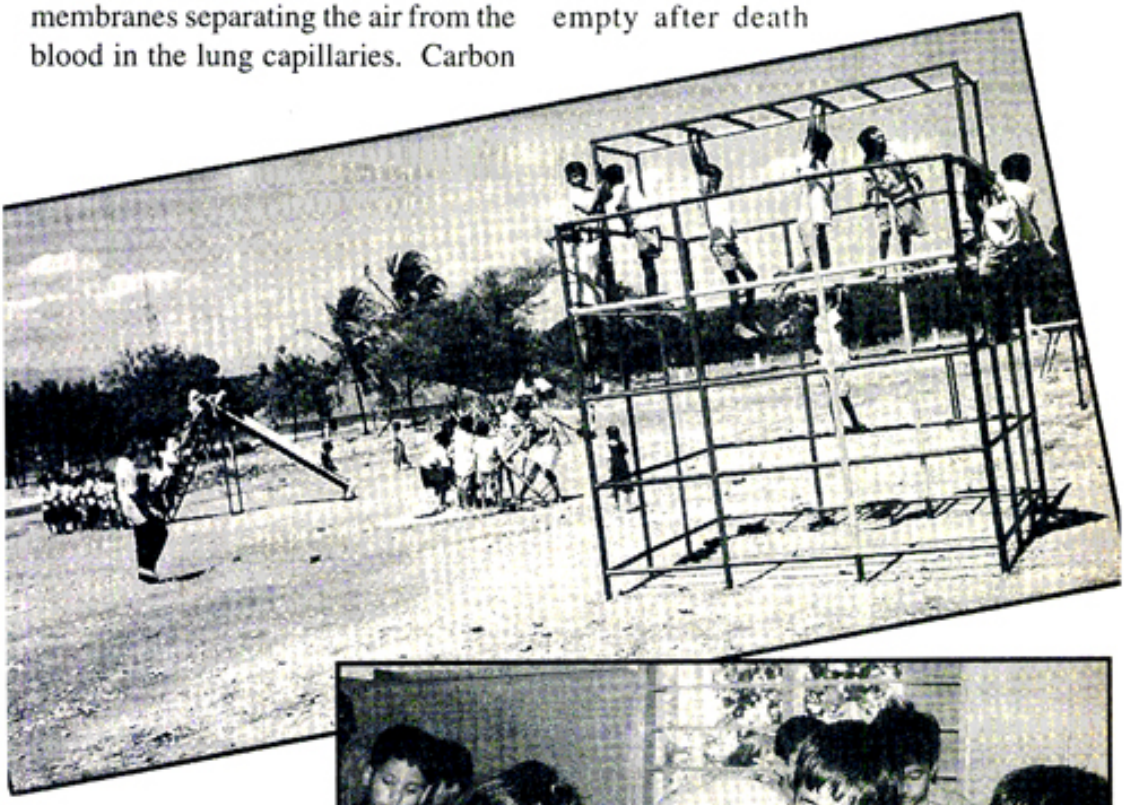
Sneezing — the air is forced down the nose when a particle that has entered the nose irritates the mucous membranes.

Laughing — short quick expirations bring out laughter.

Lungs constantly receive air. The blood coming from the right side of the heart receives a constant new supply of oxygen. Gases pass through the thin membranes separating the air from the blood in the lung capillaries. Carbon dioxide is given back freeing the blood of poison. The supply of oxygen and the removal of carbon dioxide goes on continuously.

Meanwhile oxidisation goes on in the tissues of all parts to which blood is taken. The exchange of gases between the blood and tissue is known as tissue-respiration.

Before Harvey people believed that arteries contained air. Many scientists had cut open human body to study how 'life' was 'trapped' inside the body. They found that the arteries were empty after death



* Exercise makes the blood circulate well. Good food is necessary for good health

and concluded that they contained air.

Harvey proved that the same blood was used again and again. He also proved that blood passed through lungs which contain air.

Circulation

Every part of the body is connected with blood vessels. They are of various sizes and structures. The heart muscles are involuntary muscles that contract and expand continuously.

The heart consists of four chambers. The two anterior ones are called auricles. They force the blood received from the veins into two posterior chambers called ventricles. The ventricles then contract and force the blood into the arteries. The return of the blood into the auricles and ventricles are prevented by valves.

At each contraction of the ventricles a fresh supply of blood is forced into the main delivery pipe for purified blood called aorta. Smaller arteries then lead into several parts of the body, carrying purified blood. At the same time impure blood is also pumped into the pulmonary artery to be taken to the lungs for purification.

When Bhavana exercises, more oxygen is required and so the blood flow into the vessels is increased. The blood vessels are elastic in nature. When the vessels lose their elasticity they are unable to carry larger amounts of blood.

This disease is common in older men. It is called arterio-sclerosis. Arteries are placed deep inside the body. When arteries are cut (in the event of injury) blood gushes out sometimes resulting in death.

Veins collect blood from all parts of the body and return to the heart. The chief veins are the superior vena cava (it brings blood from the upper limbs and the head) and inferior vena cava (it brings blood from the lower limbs and the trunk). The veins empty blood into the right auricle of the heart. From here blood is pumped into the right ventricle and travels along the pulmonary artery towards the lungs.

The pulmonary artery divides into two, one going into each lung. In the lungs the artery divides into small capillaries. The capillaries collect oxygenated blood to be taken back to the left auricle of the heart completing a cycle of circulation.

Haemophilia — It is known as 'bleeder's disease'. When blood does not clot on contact with air, it will result in excessive bleeding and death.

Suresh : What did Akbar do the moment he ascended the throne?

Ramesh : (Thinks for a while and says) He sat on it.

D. Subhash, Bangalore.

THE BRAVE LITTLE Fairy

"Oh! When will our play start!" thought Sumera.

They were all dressed up and waiting backstage. Sumera was dressed as the fairy. She looked around at her classmates dressed as flowers, butterflies and birds. They looked so different.

Sumera smiled at Manali who sat on the opposite bench, dressed as a marigold. Manali's little sister Sonu sat next to Manali sipping juice. Sonu was in the kindergarten. Instead of going back to her parents, after her event, Sonu waited for Manali.

"And now we come to today's last item - "The fairy of flowers by std. I", said the announcer.

"Ready children?" asked Miss. Sylvia, getting up.

Of course they were ready! For the whole month, everyday after recess Miss. Sylvia had taken them to the stage for practice.

The curtain went up and the music flowed into the auditorium. Sumera tapped her toes.

When the sunflower said, "I can hear the music, can't you?" The fairy dance music would be played on the piano. Then Sumera had to enter skipping among the flowers.

From the wings standing beside Miss. Sylvia, Sumera looked for her parents among the audience. Grandfather and Pinto aunty must have come too. But all that Sumera could see was the front row where the Principal sat next to the chief guest.

"Sumera, be ready", whispered Miss. Sylvia.

"I can hear the music, can't you?" said the sunflower.

"Miss, my magic wand!" suddenly Sumera remembered.

"Go, get it, quick!" said Miss. Sylvia.

Sumera ran backstage to get the wand. She picked it up from the bench

where she had been sitting. The fairy dance tune was already playing. She turned to skip to the stage.

It was then that Sumera saw it. Sparks fell from somewhere above. It sounded like sparklers. The sparks fell on the satin banner in the corner - just behind Sonu who sat there waiting for her sister.

"Move away, Sonu", Sumera shouted. By then more sparks had fallen, this time on Sonu's frock.

The fairy dance tune was calling her. "I should be on stage now", thought Sumera, "Miss. Sylvia will be so angry if I am late."

Sonu's frock was burning now.

"Sonu....", Sumera screamed. She threw down the magic wand, quickly pulled Sonu to the ground. She tried to put off the fire on her frock by stamping on it. But Sonu was terrified. Scared, Sonu started crying. Sumera threw herself down on the little girl and started beating the burning frock with her little hands, shouting "Sonu, Sonu", all the time.

It was time to give away the prizes.

"Manali Khedekar from Std. I", said the announcer. Manali, still in her marigold costume, walked up. She took the prize from the chief guest and bowed. There was applause.

Sumera tried to swallow the sobs that were rising.

Mummy must be so disappointed. And grandfather and Pinto aunty and of course Miss. Sylvia. "May be she will never take me in a play again", thought Sumera and tears flowed down her cheeks.

"And now there is a special prize for a brave little girl", the announcer said. "Just as the play was being enacted here on the stage, another drama was unfolding behind the stage", she continued. The audience listened in pin-drop silence.

"This brave little girl not only averted a major fire, but also saved the life of another little girl - at the risk of her own life. Here is our brave little fairy, Sumera Sinha!"

There was thunderous applause as Miss. Sylvia helped a dazed Sumera to the stage. Sumera tried to straighten the crumpled costume with her soot-covered palms.

Cameras flashed and the applause grew louder. In the crowd she saw mummy, papa, grandfather and many others stand up and clap. Through her tears, mummy even gave her a flying kiss. Sumera knew that all was well.

- Savithri Narayanan, HM, St. John's Sishu Vihar, Mumbai.

MOTHER'S DAY

Miss Anna Jarvis was a school teacher in America. After the death of her father, she grew very close to her mother but soon her mother too passed away.

Anna was a very devoted daughter. She was consumed with guilt as she felt, she had not done enough for her mother when she was alive. So she thought that it would be really wonderful if people allotted some time for their mothers — at least once a year. Thus was born the concept of MOTHER'S DAY — day on which mothers would be honoured.

Anna began a letter writing campaign to promote the idea. She wrote to editors, writers, mayors and to many ordinary people and she got an overwhelming response. It seemed that everybody had been waiting for somebody to put forth the suggestion. Villages and towns all over the country began to celebrate Mother's Day.

Finally on 8th May 1914 Anna's idea was given the official stamp of approval. The then president Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating the second Sunday in May as the day dedicated to Mothers.

Americans celebrate Mother's Day by sending floral bouquets and by visiting their mothers and taking them out to dinner.

Two years after Mother's Day had been established, another woman, Mrs. Sonora Dodd, began a campaign for institution of Father's Day. The idea, however, met with considerable resistance and it was finally only in 1972 that Father's Day was given the official nod. Rose is the official Father's Day flower.

Veena Raj, Std XII, K.V., Mumbai.

PUZZLE PAGES

DECODE THE MESSAGE

The answers to the riddles given below are in code. Each letter of the alphabet has a number. Work them out with help of the clues given.

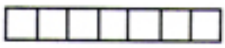
A- 13, B -6, C -20, D- 32, E- 48, F - 18, G- 46, H -24, I- 16, J- 44, K- 58, L- 68, M -72, N -96, O- 76, P- 82, Q- 64, R- 26, S- 15, T- 34, U- 17, V- 35, W- 75, X- 62, Y- 42, Z- 55

a) Whose face needs no washing?

Clues:

1) 109 - 75 , 2) 15 +9 , 3) 6X 8 4) 54/3 , 5) 81-68, 6) 13+7 , 7) 144/3, 8) 19x4, 9) 108/6, 10) 7+6, 11) 73-53, 12) 340/5, 13) 13+63, 14) 140/7, 15) 45 + 13

b) Which keys live on trees?



Clues

1) 12 X 6 2) 32+44 3) 32X3 4) 174/3 5) 23+25 6) 210/5 7) 68 - 53

B. Ramprasad, Std IX A
Jawahar Higher Secondary School, Neyveli

RIDDLES

1) What is the similarity between a baby and dress?

2) Why does mail arrive late?

3) What happened when a man sat on a pin?

4) What do frogs drink?

5) Why did the teacher wear sunglasses?

Sports quiz

1) How many feathers are there in a standard shuttlecock?

2) What is the distance of the marathon race in the olympics?

3) Which country used the term 'Googly' in cricket for the first time?

4) Name the only player to score a century in his 1st and 100th Test match?

5) Which is the world's largest stadium?

6) How many holes are there in a standard sized golf court?

7) What is the national sport of Japan?

8) How many players make up a hockey team?

9) How many times has Brazil won world cup football?

10) Who holds the record for most number of ducks in one day international?

P.R. Arun,
IX A,
Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School,
Chennai

---

6) Why do birds fly southwards for the winter?

7) Why do some people grow beard?

8) Forwards it is heavy, backward it is not?

9) Which is the animal with highest intelligence?

10) What problem does occur in a nuclear robot?

- Vithal M. Patil,
age 15,
Nav Bharat Vidyalaya,
Mumbai

ANSWER PAGE 61

THE SILVER RAT

PART VI

"There is no time to fight. Let's decipher what is written on this paper."

Bharath spread out the piece of paper which he had fished out from his pocket.

"Hey wait a minute. Where did you get that?" Anand asked amazed.

"When I tried to grab the man behind the curtain, I had caught hold of his shirt. I must have torn his pocket. This paper came with it. I meant to show it to you but in all the commotion after that I forgot about it. Now, let's look at it."

"Hey, wait a minute. I think I know how to decipher it. The man was writing with his left hand. Let me read it as he has written. "CHECK IF THEY ARE DEAD. IF NOT WHAT ARE THEY DOING?"

"What about the piece of paper you picked up today at the castle?"

"Well, here it is. Let's read that too." Bharath removed the other piece of paper. He spread it on the table. The two boys spelt each letter on the paper.

A-D-D H-E-L-L-E-B-O-R-E- T-O S-O-N-I-A'S S-O-U-P.

"Well," Bharath sighed. "What do we do now? Inform the emperor?" Anand asked.

"No. We do nothing of that sort." He went to the cupboard and removed the first aid box. He picked up a bottle from the box. "It is milk of magnesia. Remember, it is a universal antidote?"

"Yes. For stomach aches and ulcers."

"Now, will you get me tea and burnt toast?" Bharath asked.

"It's no time for toast and tea. We've to save a life."

"You dummy! I am preparing a universal antidote for the princess. For that I need burnt toast and tea."

Anand returned with a cup of tea and some burnt toast. "Now, let's mix tea and milk of magnesia. He crushed some toast and dropped it into the solution of tea and milk of magnesia. He then poured the mixture into a bottle.

"O.K. Let's go." He picked up the bottle and the boys set off for the palace.

"What brought you boys here?" the emperor asked.

"We came to see Sonia." Bharath replied. "How is she now?"

"Much better. Why don't you go

see her?"

The boys were waiting for just such an invitation. They entered the princess' room.

Sonia Fridvay was lying on the bed. "How are you feeling?" Bharath asked her.

"Much better," the princess replied weakly.

A nurse was posted in the room. The boys greeted her warmly. They were both wondering how they could divert her attention. Bharath looked around the room. A refrigerator occupied a portion of the room.

"What do you have in it?" Bharath enquired.

"Some fruits and soft drink."

"Can I fetch you some fruits?" Anand asked.

"I guess a soft drink will help." Sonia said weakly.

Bharath went to the fridge and brought out a bottle of soft drink. He made sure that no one was looking at him. Anand kept up a stream of conversation. The nurse sat by the bedside. Bored with the conversation the nurse picked up a book and began reading oblivious to the boys.

Bharath then brought the soft drink to the princess. She propped herself on the bed and drank it slowly. "It tastes odd." She declared.

"That must be because you have been unwell for so long."

"I guess you are right," she said and drank up the contents of the bottle.

The next morning there was a messenger from the palace. He said, that the emperor wanted to see the boys in the palace.

When the boys reached the palace, the emperor said, "The royal palace museum has just now been officially declared open for public. Would you like to visit it?"

At the museum the boys went through the collection of items displayed. There were pens, diaries, and an amazing collection of knick-knacks. But it was Ivan Fridvay's collection that held them enthralled.

The silver rat found a prominent place on the display shelf. When Philip, who had accompanied them to the museum embarked on an explanation about the piece, Anand said, "No don't say anything. We have been reading up the history of the island country, remember?"

"Oh, then I shouldn't be saying anything at all."

Just as they were walking around the museum, Anand gasped. Bharath looked in the direction Anand's eyes were. "Isn't he the man we saw in the castle?"

"Yes. It's him. Come let's follow him."

"I bet he's up to something."

"Undoubtedly."

"Hey what are you two talking about?" Philip asked baffled.

They began following the person slowly. "Are you sure we are doing the right thing?" Philip asked.

"Sure." Bharath whispered. They waited as the man entered the room where Ivan Fridvay's items were placed.

The man seemed to be in no hurry. He appeared to be waiting for someone. Suddenly there was an explosion and there was commotion everywhere. The boys rushed into the room. When all the commotion had died down the boys looked for each other. They had been standing close to each other.

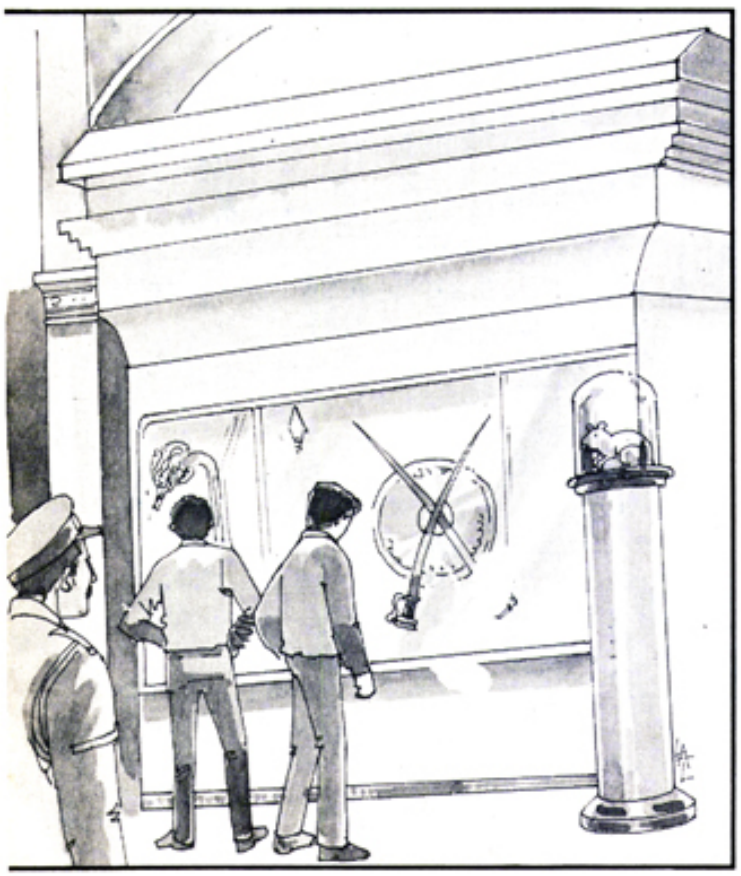
Philip looked around the room. "Oh god. I don't believe this."

Bharath and Anand turned around. The silver rat was missing from the pedestal.

Bharath and Anand asked him not to reveal the truth about the man.

"Don't tell the police we were following him. Just say you were here when the explosion occurred and that the silver rat was stolen."

"But how can that happen? All the items here are burglary-proof. An alarm goes off when any item is touched. And why should I not tell the police of our suspicion?"



To continue,
S. SRIKANTH,
age 17,
Kudremukh.

THE INJURED DOG

I could hear a cry of pain,
There, it came again!

I guess he was very afraid,
So I decided to reach out to him for aid.

I followed the sounds,
And my happiness knew no bounds,

For I had found a whimpering dog,
And on one of his paws a big, heavy log.

I lifted the log with all my might,
And I became sad at the unpleasant sight.

I took him home with me,
And was good to him as I could be.

The very next day he started to roam,
Maybe he liked my little home.

But later I left him in the place he knew,
I think it was good for him, don't you?

Harinee Muralinath, age 11,
Mother's International School, New Delhi.

EXPERIENCE

TRUE SCOUT

One evening when my mother was returning home a cyclist crossed her path. My mother tried to move away from his path. Suddenly the man leaned over and snatched the chain from my mother's neck. He sped away.

A boy who was walking a little behind my mother noticed this incident. He grabbed the handle bar of the bicycle. The man fell on the ground. The boy tried to pin the man down. The man was stronger than the boy. He threw the boy aside and jumped on his bicycle and sped away.

In the melee, the man had let slip the chain. The boy handed over the chain to my mother. When my mother profusely thanked the boy, the boy said, "I only did my duty as a scout."

My brother was so impressed by the boy's bravery that he has joined the scouts movement.

Deepa S. Radhakrishnan,
IX - A, Carmel H.S.,
Trivandrum

'TRAP' DOOR

I was ten years old then. My younger sister was three years old.

She had one day accidently hurt herself while trying to close a door.

She began crying with pain. Our neighbour's daughter who noticed this, shut the door firmly. My sister began to wail loudly. It took us a few moments to realise that my sister had been crying because she had been hurt and not because she wanted the door to be closed!

T.S. Venkatasubramanian,
Nellai

LOST BOOK!

I was preparing for the annual examinations. The first exam was history. The teacher had advised us to read the text books too. The night before exams, I studied the lessons in the text book. At 10p.m. since I was very sleepy, I went to bed. I placed the text book under my pillow. The next morning I woke up at 5 a.m. so that I could study a little.

I searched around for the book. But I couldn't remember where I had placed it. I spent over an hour searching for it.

My mother asked me to get ready for school. I got ready for school all the time wondering where I had placed the book.

When I finished my breakfast, I realised suddenly that I had placed it under my pillow.

I retrieved it from under the pillow and went through the lessons.

S. Bhargavi, Std VI,
B.P. Indian P.S., Bangalore

Dear Bhargavi, pl. send your house address. *Ed.*

LIFE SAVED

I returned home after an exciting game of cricket. I flung myself on the sofa. I noticed something in the corner of the room. There were a couple of delicious, yellow cakes.

I picked up a cake and was about

to bite into it when my mother who entered the room said, "Don't eat it. I've added rat poison to it."

What if my mother hadn't stopped me!

S. Shankar, age 13,
PSSSS, Chennai.

DOG SCARE

Once we visited an aunt's house. She has a dog for pet.

When my cousins and I neared the gate my aunt's pet ran to welcome us.

I shrieked with terror. My aunt's son held the dog on leash. He then shut the dog away in a room.

But the dog continued barking and scratching the door. The door was probably not latched. Suddenly the dog entered the room we were in and began sniffing everyone.

I was so scared that I climbed on the sofa, shrieking with terror. The dog was taken away and it took a lot of time to pacify me.

P. Sindhura,
VII M, Hyderabad Public School,
Hyderabad.

SNIPPETS

Bailey Bridge

Army engineers have reconstructed in a record 22 days a bailey bridge in Kinnur district of Himachal Pradesh. The 360 ft. bridge on the India - Tibet road at a height of 5,000 feet was damaged by landslide, leading to traffic restrictions.

Largest Shirt

Devaa Shirts Company in Thane, Maharashtra, has created the world's largest shirt. The biscuit coloured shirt is extremely visible near the state transport bus stand in Thane. The shirt was created as a tribute to the 50 years of Independence. The feat has found a place in the Limca Book of Records.

Costly Bicycle

A bicycle was auctioned for £23,000, in London on Sept. 20, 1997. The machine dubbed "the ultimate bike" was designed and ridden by a former professional

British cyclist Bruce Bursford. He achieved a record of 207.9 mph. Bursford, 39, embarked on a training programme for the record attempt which expanded his thighs by 10 inches in 18 months.

A Record by Brushing

Hundreds of inhabaitants of

Dad : Raju, how many sums were there in Maths exam?

Raju : There were 10 sums

Dad : How many did you leave unsolved?

Raju : The first 6 and last 4.

Jeetendra, Std. X,
Hyderabad.

Loerrach of S.W. Germany made a bid to enter the Guinness Book of World Records when they brushed their teeth in the town's market square. More than 1,200 young and old jointly performed a brisk three-minute oral abulation in public in Sept. '97. They were supplied with a sachet to spit the rinse out in.

A Strange Record

A postcard took only 841 days to travel 175 km. Mr. R. Vernekar of Mundgod in Karnataka sent a card on May 25, '95 to his son, asking him to come home immediately. The son received it on Sept. 12, '97.

Oldest Human Habitat

Low mounds built about 5,400 years ago on a river plain in what is now Louisiana make up the oldest known man-built earthern structure in north America, according to researchers. The mounds at a place called Watson Brake near Monroe were built by people who settled here because the area was rich in food sources.

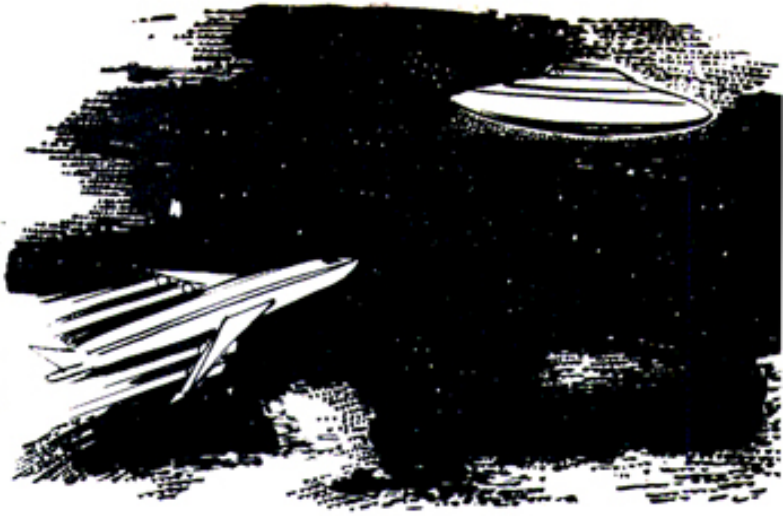
Costly Poster

A film poster for the classic 1942 film "Casablanca" fetched a record $78,000 at Sotheby's auction in London. The poster was bought by businessman Andrew Cohen. Cohen owns the world's biggest selection of Charlie Chaplin posters.

Highest Village

Kaumik, situated at 15,500 ft. in the Spiti area of Lahaut Spiti, is the highest village to be connected by road. The 26 km. Kaza - Lanza - Kaumik road, was inaugurated in Oct. '97. Earlier, a village called Kibber, in Spiti valley had this distinction.

SURESH K. ANJUM, Calcutta.



A number of recorded sightings of UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects) are received every year. Some of them are accompanied by photographs or video recordings. Authorities admit that a vast majority of these sightings are meteors, ion clouds, aircrafts, birds, balloons, etc. But, a significant minority are still officially classified as 'unindentified'. The possibility remains strong that earth is regularly being visited by strange creatures from other planets.

ALIENS - DO

SIGHTINGS

Extraterrestrial multi-coloured objects seen across the sky above the village "Al-Jahra" in Saudi Arabia have been recorded on video film.

Again, one of the most exciting spottings, not long ago, took place when Spanish caravelle jet was chased by an object with bright red lights, and forced into an emergency landing at Valencia. At about the same time, another sighting was recorded in the town of Bodo, near Arctic Circle.

This too, was of an object with extremely bright red lights, shaped like a giant saucer, and flying at a very high speed. On this occasion it was also reported that the spacecraft hovered from time to time, and several people in Bodo took photographs.

The photographs were impressive, showing a large saucer-like object suspended in the sky about 30 metres from the ground, shaped by concentric circles. Small circular holes were noticed. From these holes were emitted some form of bright light.

Recent Encounters

On July 24, the pilot and the

co-pilot of an Air Canada jet at 3,000m altitude, enroute from New York to Vancouver, saw a dull-red object approaching on a collision course. During the next 12 seconds, it veered slightly to the left, passed the jet on the left at a very high speed, pulled up almost to a stop, then shot vertically upwards into the clouds.

The pilot — whose story was later confirmed by several passengers — described the object as cigar shaped, about 25m long, with two rows of lighted windows. It exhibited a dark blue glow underneath it, and a red-orange flame about 20m long behind it.

Two months later, three fishermen of Sao Paulo, Brazil saw a "large flying saucer" approach them at a high speed. Instead of passing over them as they expected, it suddenly came to an abrupt stop with a deafening hissing noise, and hovered over them.

Suddenly, the men were sucked up through a small trap door at the base of the object which then took off again at a very high speed. The two fishermen have not been seen since.

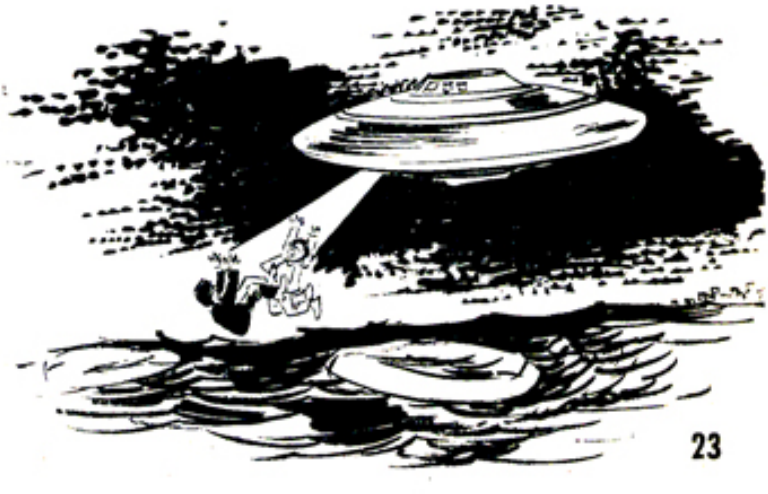
A woman in the USA claimed that she was regularly being visited by aliens. They had a kind of power in their eyes. Their eyes were large and very deeply black. Their heads were as big as two basketballs. They had a flat nose and pure white skin.

Yet Ufologists have simply been considered "cranks", and so people laugh or dismiss their sightings as mere imaginations.

But, Ufologists are confident that sooner or later, world governments will have to face up to this fact, and do something about it.

Rahul Menon, age 14,
K.V. Shahib Baugh,
Ahmedabad.

THEY EXIST?



INTERESTING FACTS

ABOUT CRAZY CRICKET

1. Did you know that Douglas Sardine was born in Mumbai and Bab-Woolmen in Kanpur?
2. Australia's Grahman Yallop was the first batsman to use a helmet in a test match.
3. Sir Richard Hadlee's idol is Mahatma Gandhi.
4. Clive Llyod used six grips on his bat handle.
5. Mike Hendrick bowled Madan Lal in a test match 1974, uprooting off and leg stumps, leaving the middle intact.
6. Sachin Tendulkar was named after Sachin Dev Burman bacause his grandpa was an ardent fan of the great music director.
7. Both batsmen, Brian Lara and Sachin Tendulkar have the same zodiac signs. (TAURUS).
8. Kapil Dev's favorite singer is Mohinder Amarnath (another cricketer).

Tips from Sachin Tendulkar's coach Ramakanth Achrekar.

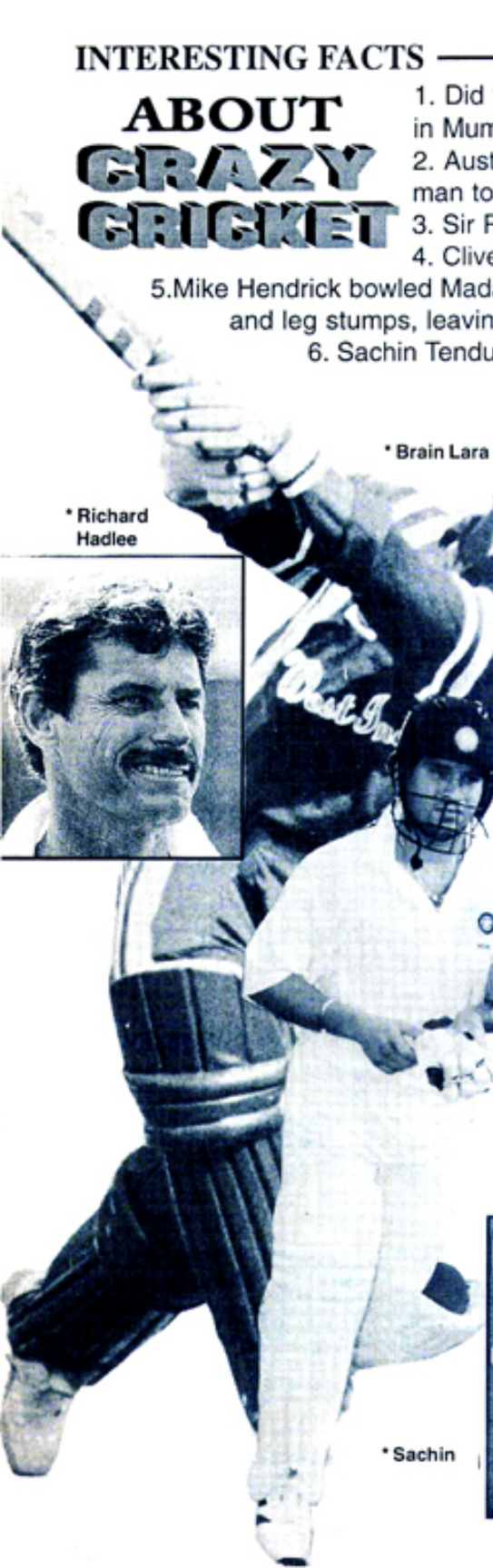
i. PRACTICE, PRACTICE AND PRACTICE.

ii. Play as many matches as you can.

iii. Ask your coaches or other senior cricketers to identify your mistakes.

- Compiled from THE CENTER FRESH BOOK of CRICKET LISTS.

- By Vijay S. Pai,
IX A, St. Mary's Eng.HS,
Thane.



* Brain Lara

* Richard Hadlee

* Sachin

* Clive Lloyd

* Kapil Dev

LOOKING BEAUTIFUL

Just as the concept of beauty varies from person to person, from time to time, and place to place, even the art of beautification varies from time to time and place to place.

Eskimos rub fat into their skin in an effort to make themselves more attractive.

Ancient Egyptians admired shining and healthy hair, well shaped lips and brows, thick black lashes, a good complexion and a good figure. Egyptians used eye-brow-sticks, eye-shades of riotous colours, lipsticks and rouges, eye-liners, powders and mascara liberally.

Perfumes were used in excess. Some of them used as many as 15 different perfumes at the same time! They even carried small bottles of perfumes concealed in their dresses.

Greeks used all the cosmetics and beauty secrets of the Egyptians. They went one step further and used special ointments to make their hair blonde-somewhat similar to the present day bleaching of the hair!

When the Romans conquered Greece, they brought back with them the 'beauty doctors' from Greece. Thus they acquired the secrets of dyeing their hair, special face washes, skin tonics, dyes for finger tips etc.

Ancient Roman women used face-packs made out of clay for a smoother skin just as the present day women do when they visit an expensive beauty parlour.

Some of them even bathed in milk. There's a bizzare story of how a woman is actually believed to have taken bath in human blood in a vain attempt to remain eternally young!

VISALAKSHI RAMANI,
Coimbatore.

THE SHEPHERD'S DAUGHTER

Once the king of Persia faced a strange dilemma. His son, the crown prince had been out hunting. During his ride back home, he had come across a girl with whom he fell in love on sight. The prince learnt that she was a shepherd's daughter. The prince returned home and told his father that he wanted to marry the shepherd's daughter. The king sent word to the shepherd's daughter through his trusted minister.

The girl who received the proposal asked the minister, "What labour does he do?" The minister was shocked that anyone could question the king's son's status. The minister replied "Why, he is a king's son so why should he work?" But the girl said the prince should do some labour.

The minister returned to the palace and said, "The shepherd's daughter wants to know the prince's labour."

The king told his son, "The shepherd's daughter wants you to learn some craft. Do you still want to wed her?"

The son said "Yes." The prince began to learn to weave straw rugs. Within a week the prince had learnt to make exquistely patterned rugs with straw. The minister returned to the shepherd's daughter with

a sample of the rugs made by the prince. He told her, "See these are the rugs made by our prince."

The shepherd's daughter soon became the prince's wife. One day when the prince was out hunting he came upon a small eatary. The clean atmosphere was beckoning.

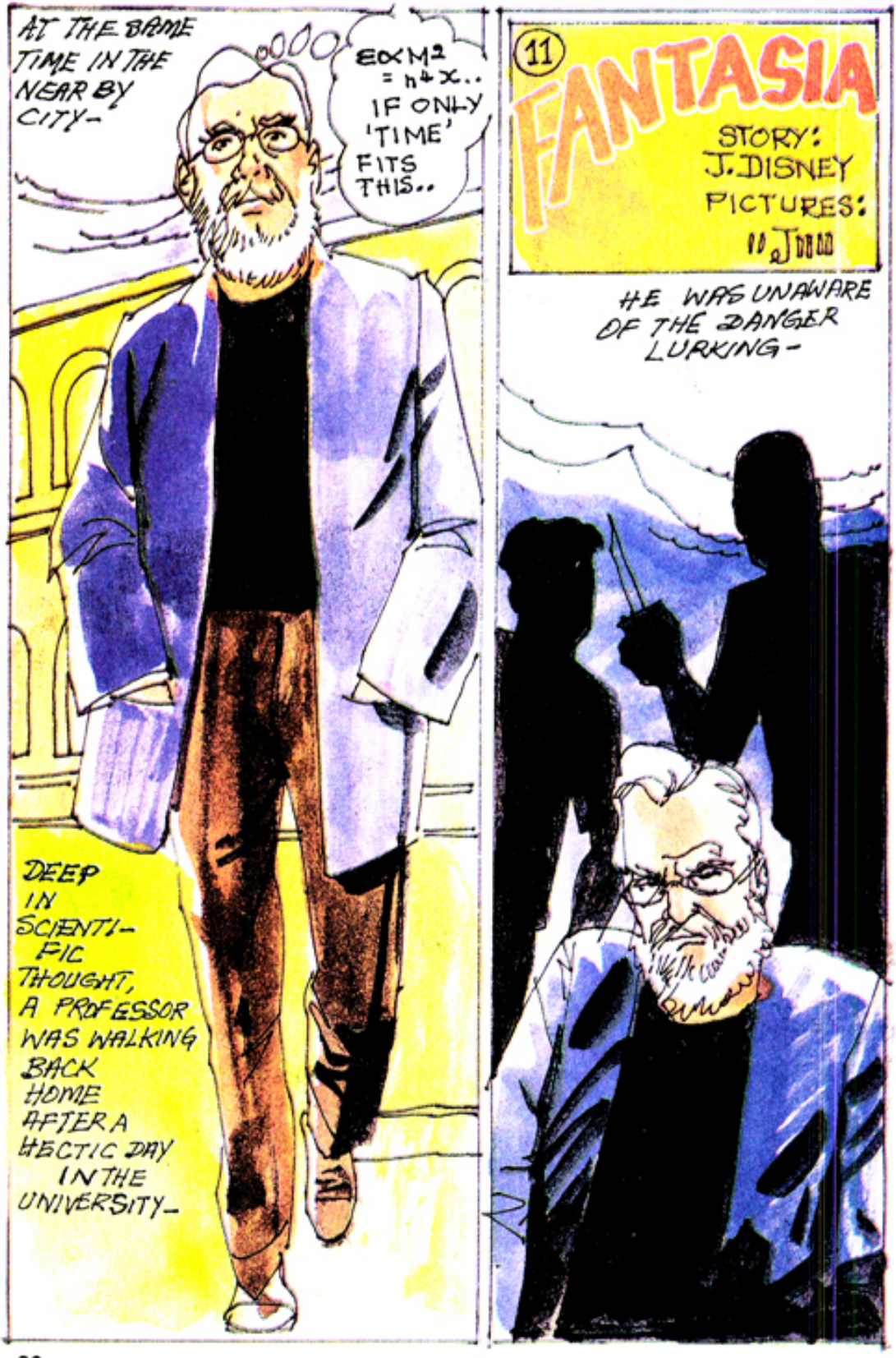
The prince was very tired and wanted to rest. Just as he sat on a bench outside the eatary, a group of heavyset men came upto him and gagged him and took him away. The prince was held hostage in a cave far from the kingdom. The prince said to one of the heavyset men, "I can weave beautiful rugs from straw. Get me some straw. I shall weave beautiful rugs for you."

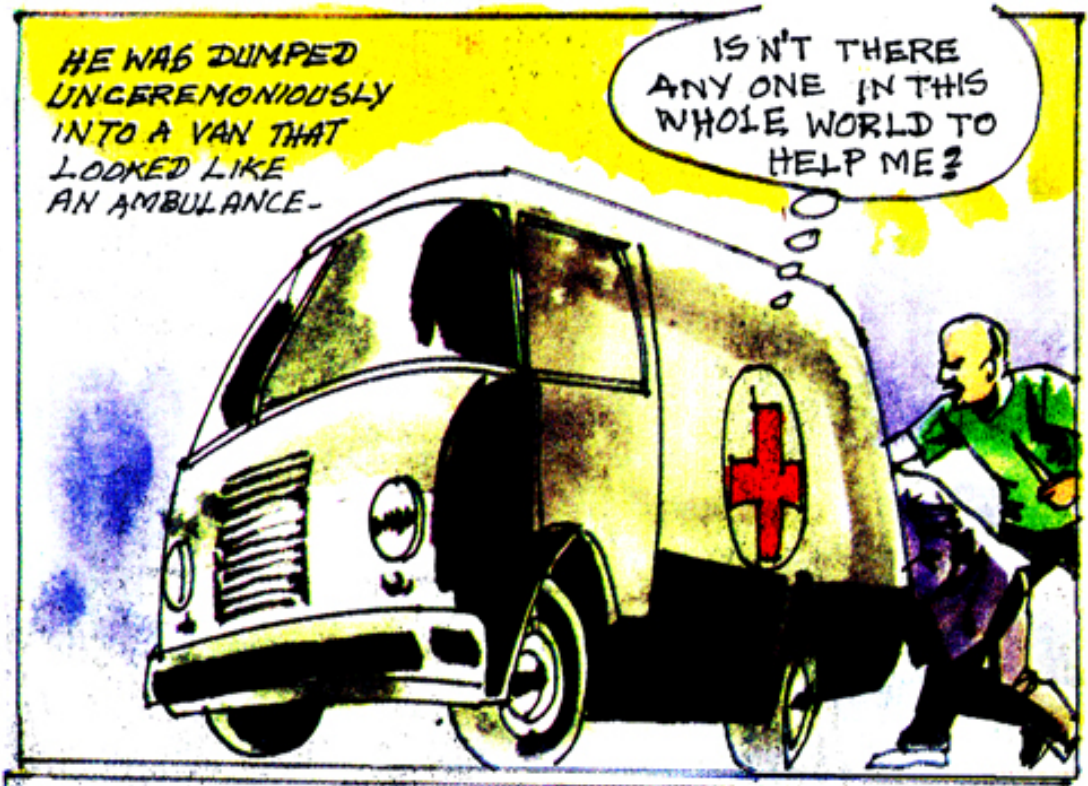
The guard got him straw. The prince made beautiful rugs. He then asked the guard to sell it in the king's palace. "They will fetch a lot of money."

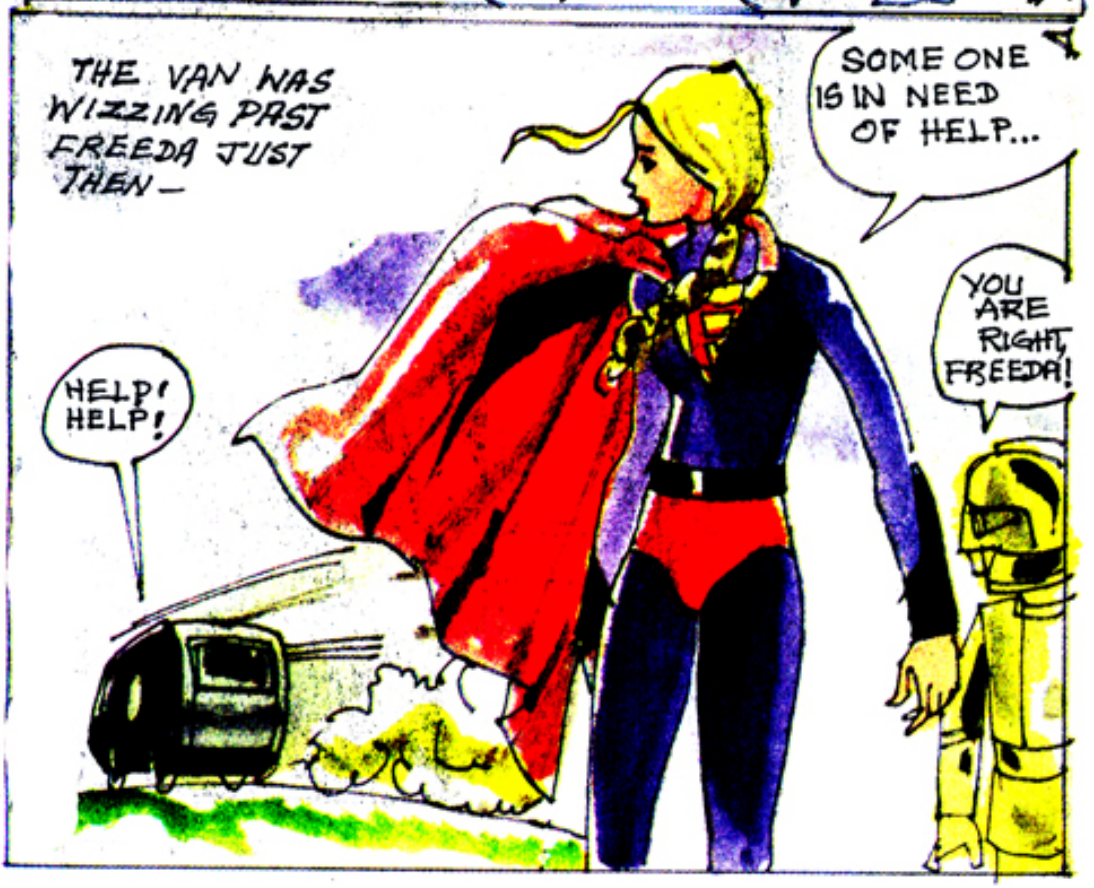
The guard went to the palace and showed the rugs to the king. The prince's wife who saw the rugs recognised them as her husband's work and asked a few soldiers to follow the rug seller.

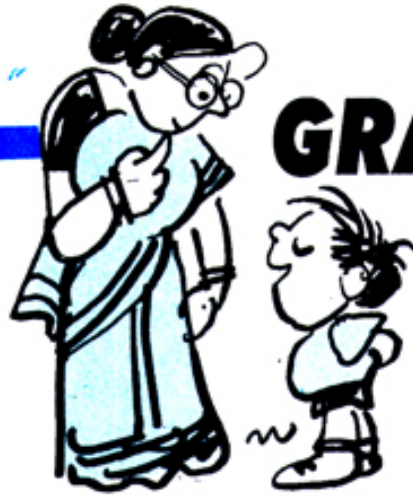
Soon, the prince was rescued from the cave where he had been imprisoned. The culprits were arrested. The king was very happy with his son and his daughter-in-law.

Swapna Silvy, age 13,
Little Flower HS,
Bellary


AT THE SAME TIME IN THE NEAR BY CITY-
EαM² = n⁴x.. IF ONLY 'TIME' FITS THIS..
DEEP IN SCIENTI-FIC THOUGHT, A PROFESSOR WAS WALKING BACK HOME AFTER A HECTIC DAY IN THE UNIVERSITY-
11
FANTASIA
STORY: J. DISNEY
PICTURES: "J"
HE WAS UNAWARE OF THE DANGER LURKING-


HE WAS DUMPED UNCEREMONIOUSLY INTO A VAN THAT LOOKED LIKE AN AMBULANCE-
IS N'T THERE ANY ONE IN THIS WHOLE WORLD TO HELP ME?


THE VAN WAS WIZZING PAST FREEDA JUST THEN—
SOME ONE IS IN NEED OF HELP...
HELP! HELP!
YOU ARE RIGHT, FREEDA!



GRANDMA WORM

I am 12 years old. My father always tells me that I am always asking unwanted questions. I am curious. So, I ask questions. Is it wrong?

A. Pavithra, Trichy.

Dear Pavithra,

Asking questions is not wrong. Perhaps you over did it! Instead of asking your father for answers why not visit your school library. You can look up encyclopaedias. Discuss your questions with your friends. Cultivate the habit of reading books on general knowledge.

I am a numismatist. I have a good collection of coins. How do I go about collecting coins of S. American and African countries? My father's friends don't visit these places though they travel around the world a lot.

Ankit H. Joshi, age 13, Mumbai.

Dear Ankit,

Try to find out if there's anybody in your colony interested in the same hobby. You can then exchange your coins with them if they have coins that you seek.

My classmate always tops in class. I try my best to get first. But I fail miserably. Maths frightens me.

P. Niveditha, age 11, Madurai.

Dear Niveditha,

There's no short cut to learning maths. Especially if you want to score well. So, better start working out maths problems! You are sure to top your class.

I am in VIII standard. I am good at studies. But during exams I get tense and I fall ill. I miss my exams. What can I do?

Mukul P. Joshi, Mumbai.

Dear Mukul,

The only way to cope with exams is to be prepared for them. If your are thorough with your portions you will be confident when you appear for exams and you will not fall ill.

I always wanted a pup for a pet. I could do with some other animal, but I have a special liking for dogs. My mother and grandma oppose my suggestion. They say a dog is a filthy animal and develops diseases. I have tried and failed to convince them. I do want a dog for a pet.

B. Swathi Bhandarkar, age 14, Bantval.

Dear Swathi,

A pet requires constant care and

attention. If you lose interest your mother will have to take care of it. That is why she probably refuses to listen to you.

Having a pet can be very demanding. You have to bathe it, feed it on time, take it for a walk and take it to the doctor too. You cannot lock up your dog when you go on a vacation. Can you take care of your pet? Convince your parents that you can do all these. They'll probably let you have one.

I have absolutely no self-confidence. I am afraid of people and think I'll make a fool of myself if I talk to them. I think my parents love my sister more than me. I am sometimes cruel to her. I always quarrel with her. My parents despair over the way things are.

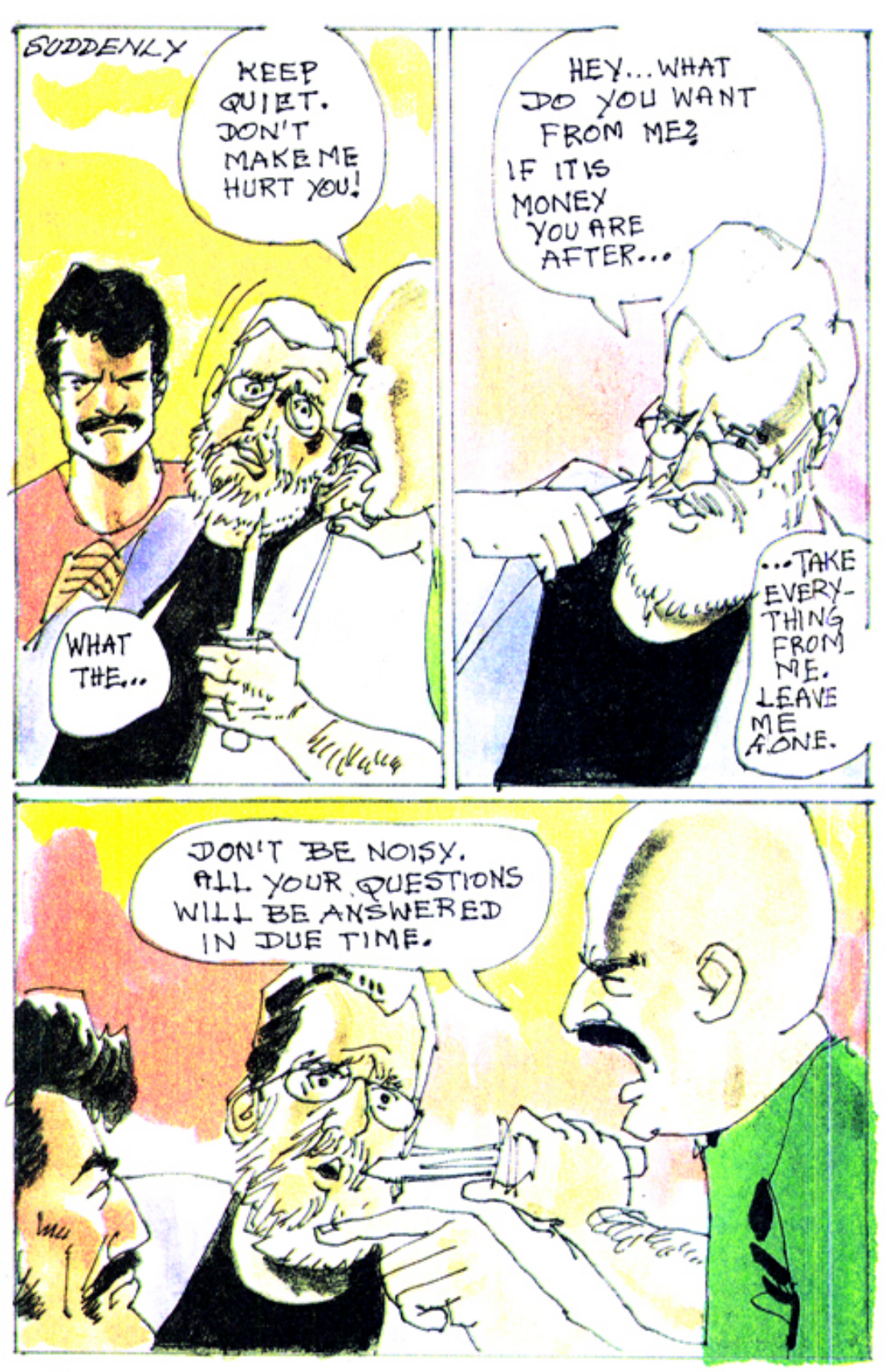
Maneesha Chowdhury, VF, Padma Seshadri, Chennai.

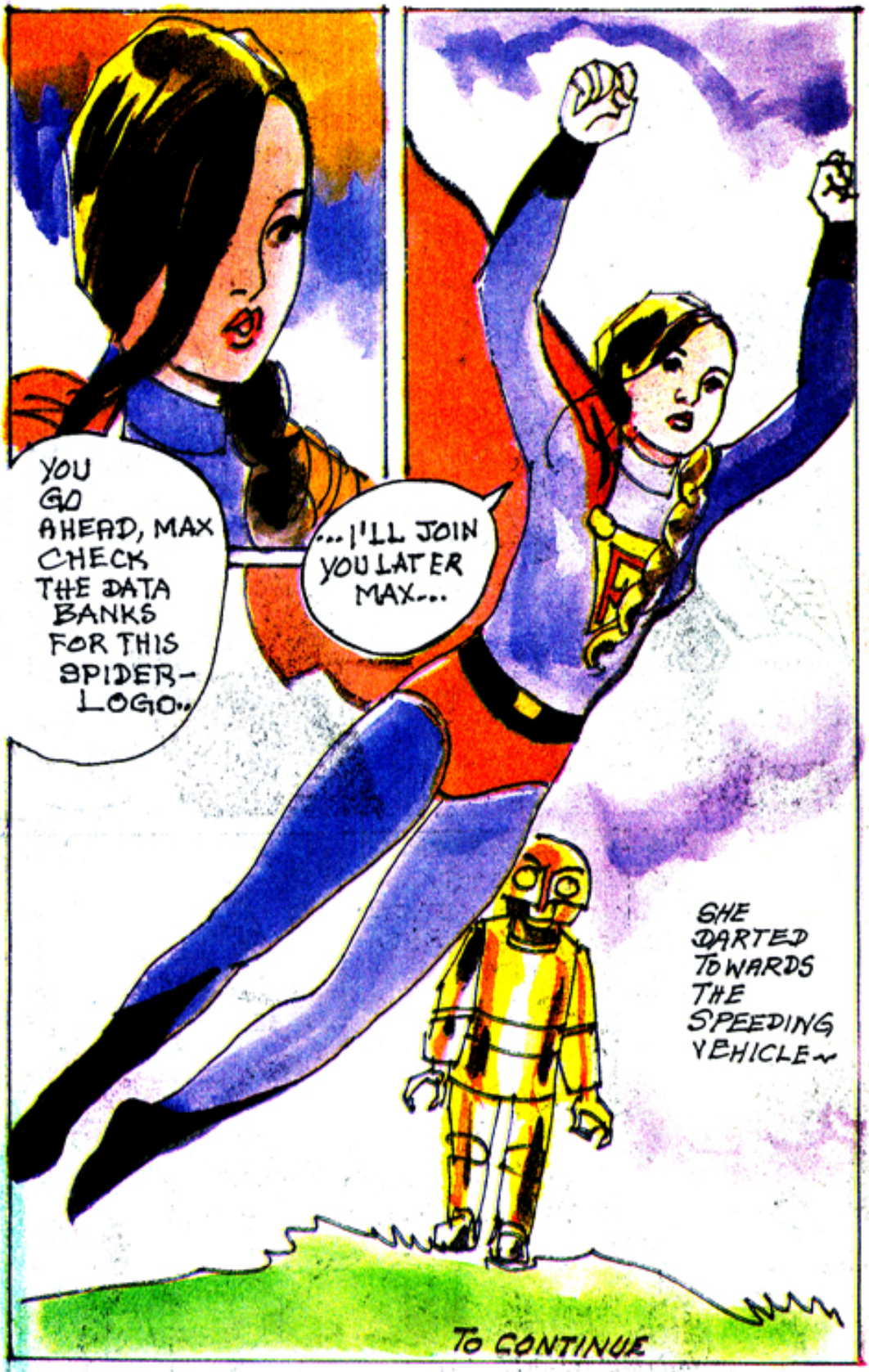
Dear Maneesha,

Younger sisters can be fun to have around. You could involve your sister in some secret mission - like cleaning up your room or watering the plants. When your parents see how clean and beautiful the house is, they are bound to praise you. It's always the elder sister who gets praised!

When praises are showered on you, you also become confident. And guess what, you'll make lots and lots of friends.

Love, Grandma worm


SUDDENLY
KEEP QUIET. DON'T MAKE ME HURT YOU!
WHAT THE...
HEY... WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME? IF IT IS MONEY YOU ARE AFTER...
...TAKE EVERY-THING FROM ME. LEAVE ME ALONE.
DON'T BE NOISY. ALL YOUR QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED IN DUE TIME.


YOU GO AHEAD, MAX CHECK THE DATA BANKS FOR THIS SPIDER-LOGO..
...I'LL JOIN YOU LATER MAX...
SHE DARTED TOWARDS THE SPEEDING VEHICLE~
TO CONTINUE

FACT FILE

Sneeze superstition

Romans believed that when we sneeze evil spirits that have taken residence in our bodies are expelled. This is why in Europe people say 'God bless you' when somebody sneezes. They believe that the person has just got rid of an evil spirit.

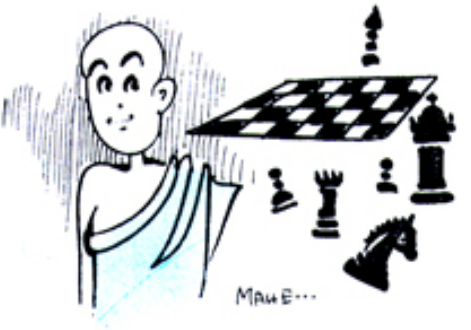
Quake-prone Japan

Japan is the most earthquake-prone country in the world. There is an earthquake almost every day of the year. Of course most of these can be detected

only by sensitive instruments and do no damage at all.

Mock warfare

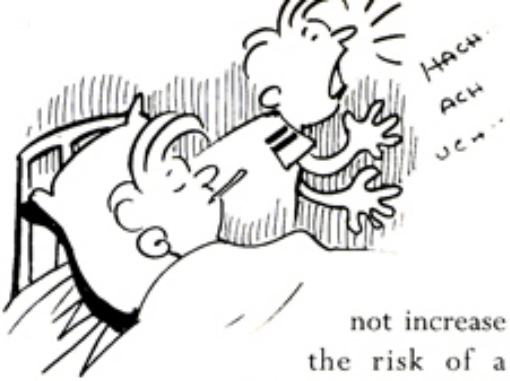
Chess was invented in India by Buddhist monks as a substitute for



warfare because their religion prohibited violence. But kings began to play the game to improve their art of warfare!

Cold facts

An adult will catch an average of 2 - 4 colds a year. As few as 10 cold viruses may be enough to start off an infection. The droplets in sneeze travel at a speed of 102 miles per hour and as far as 12 feet. Cold does not produce fever except in children. Cold cannot be treated by antibiotics as no bacteria are involved. Exposure to chilly temperatures does



not increase the risk of a cold, but fatigue and stress may.

Chewing gum is healthy

Parents now no longer need censure their children for eating too much chewing gum. According to a recent

research finding of a team from the University of Oulu in Finland, a sweetener commonly used in chewing gum may prevent ear infections.

Cry babies

An average human being cries 250,000 times in his life-time.

Velayudhan Features

IF I WERE A BIRD

I think if I were a bird,
I would fly high in the sky.
I would choose to be
Not a peacock or a goose,
A parrot would be nice to choose.
I would be green and colourful,
But my beak may look a little dull.
I would eat chillies and make people laugh,
And I would fly a kilometre full or half.
I'd think of the dangers I must pass,
If I were free and I would sing and dance.
Now I see how nice it would be to be a bird.

But now I am still a human being
Who knows, when I will be born a bird.

T. Siddharth, age 10,
Haryana

WISDOM and WEALTH

The kingdom of Prithvi was ruled wisely by King Eshwar. He had two daughters. The elder one was named Saraswathy and the younger one was named Lakshmi. Saraswathy was interested in reading, wiriting and playing the 'veena'.

While Lakshmi was charming. Her beauty dazzled everyone. She had many ardent followers. People would go to any length to please her. Her birthday was celebrated with much pomp and gaiety as the 'festival of lights' by the people of Prithvi.

Saraswathy was sober and gentle. She was always overshadowed by her glamorous sister, Lakshmi. As the sisters grew older the differences in their nature became more obvious. People flocked around Lakshmi, worshipped the very path she trod. Lakshmi too was pleased with the attention she got. She dispensed her blessings on anyone who took her fancy. Often she neglected her ardent followers. Many people not worthy of her benediction often won great favours. Lakshmi had little regard for hard work, intelligence or loyalty. Sometimes Lakshmi would merely forget a devotee and favour someone else with her charm.

Saraswathy had only a few fol-

lowers. Those who approached her with sincerity and devotion were rewarded handsomely with learning and their wealth was never taken away from them. Saraswathy's benedictions were with her followers even during the most testing times.

When Saraswathy learnt that some of her followers were being treated shabbily by Lakshmi's followers she was very upset. Unhappy with these developments, Saraswathy decided to leave Prithivi. She found a lonely island. A few of her followers followed her to the island.

Meanwhile in Prithvi, teachers were being treated with disdain. High offices were held by people blessed by Lakshmi. The followers of Lakshmi held sway. When greed got the better of them, the people resorted to stealing, looting and even killing. In Prithvi only the wealthy survived. King Eshwar who noticed the decadence in his country tried to talk to his daughter Lakshmi. Lakshmi only laughed. She said, "But father, don't you see how much they love me? How can I not bless them?"

King Eshwar spoke to Saraswathy. But Saraswathy refused to return to Prithvi where her followers were being badly treated.

The wise king decided he would talk to the people himself. The king's messengers spread the king's message far and wide in the country. Since King Eshwar was known to be a just and kind ruler the people wanted to hear what he

had to say. The poor and the rich flocked to the palace.

King Eshwar said, "My beloved people, I am sure you know why I have decided to speak to you. I can't bear to see my 'Prithvi' being slowly destroyed. You know people have started calling our land 'narak'. Your excessive devotion to Lakshmi has driven you crazy. To win her favour you have resorted to even killing each other. Saraswathy, who deserved your respect more has been neglected. Her followers have been insulted and humiliated.

"Lakshmi has all the charm of this world but it is Saraswathy who can make you a complete human being. Only Saraswathy can make you happy and content. If you are blessed by Saraswathy you will lead a happier life. Then, Prithvi will regain its former glory."

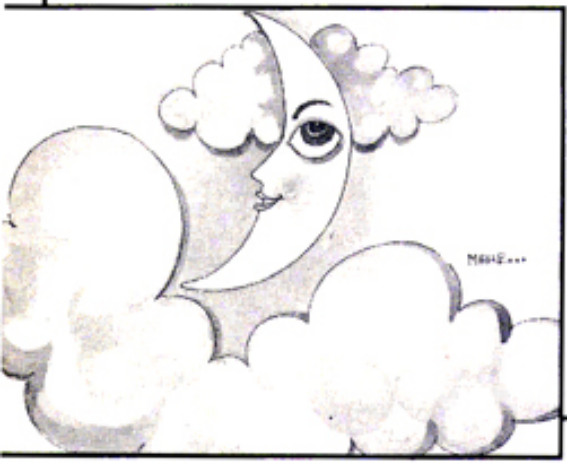
The people who listened to the king's speech slowly realised how unfair and greedy they had been. People set sail to the island where Saraswathy now lived. They pleaded with her to return to Prithvi. After much cajoling Saraswathy returned to Prithvi. Lakshmi was unhappy and sulked but King Eshwar was very pleased. He advised his daughter Lakshmi to accept the inevitable.

The people of Prithvi led a better life with the blessings of both Lakshmi and Saraswathy.

Ramendra Kumar,
Rourkela.

THE MOON

We can see her only in the night,
She shines brighter than the stars,



Why does she hesitate to come soon?
Because, she is very shy and prefers to stay away
She is charming and beautiful,
Yet she doesn't shine on her own!
She takes the sun's help to spread her rays,
Still she is beautiful and intriguing.
Come, let's watch the silver moon
Slide across the sky past the clouds.

Abhinay Sinha, age 9,
St. Thomas Boy's School,
Calcutta.

AN EERIE DREAM

Nita was excited that she was going to the zoo for a picnic, the next day. She was happy because her holidays began the next day. She had been waiting for her holidays to begin so that she could watch her favourite movie - Poltergeist. She watched the movie until late in the night. When she went to bed it was well past midnight.

She must have slept fitfully. She was in the zoo and all animals appeared restless. She wondered why the animals were restless. Suddenly a huge branch of a tree snapped and fell on top of the car in which she was seated.

Frightened, Nita screamed, "mother". Somebody was shaking her. Nita woke up and realised it was just a dream!

Her mother advised her to stop watching movies late into the night.

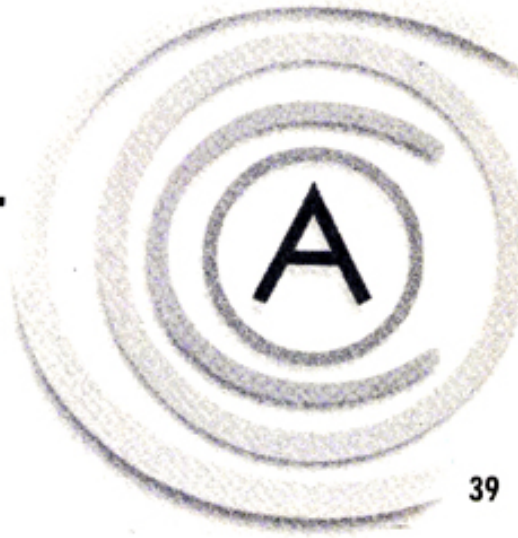
The next day dawned bright and clear and the trip to the zoo was a pleasant one.

K. Geetha Bharathi, age 9,
Balalok MHSS, Chennai.

There's a word hidden here. Can you find it?

N. Shilpa, age 11,
New Horizon P.S.,
Bangalore.

Ans : COCOA



MY GARDEN

There's a garden in my house,
I sit there and leisurely browse,
It's full and bright green,
It is beautiful and very clean.

The trees stand like towers,
They are laden with flowers,
Honey bees make many trips
While birds continuously chirp.

The boughs are laden with
butterflies,
Our lazy cat snaps angrily at
irritant flies.
The cuckoo nests here in spring,
Mother nature makes me want
to sing.

C.V. Spurthi, VII B,
Presidency School,
Bangalore

GOKULAM

NAME.....

STANDARD.....

SUBJECT.....

SCHOOL.....

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA

Children's College and Career Fund

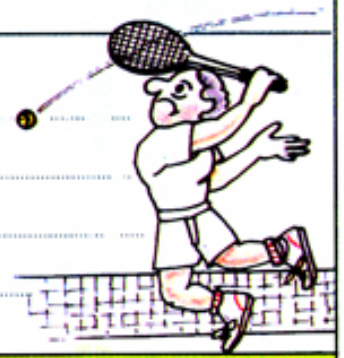
GOKULAM

NAME.....

STANDARD.....

SUBJECT.....

SCHOOL.....



UNIT TRUST OF INDIA

Children's College and Career Fund

GOKULAM

NAME.....

STANDARD.....

SUBJECT.....

SCHOOL.....

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA

Children's Gift Growth Fund.

GOKULAM

NAME.....

STANDARD.....

SUBJECT.....

SCHOOL.....

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA

Children's Gift Growth Fund.

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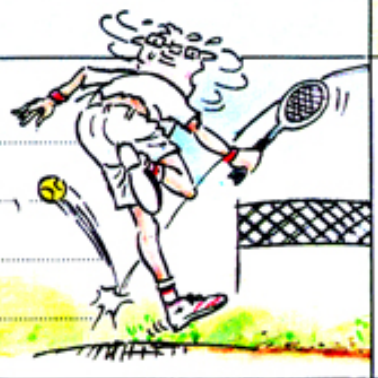
SCHOOL.....

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA

Raj Lakshmi

GOKULAM



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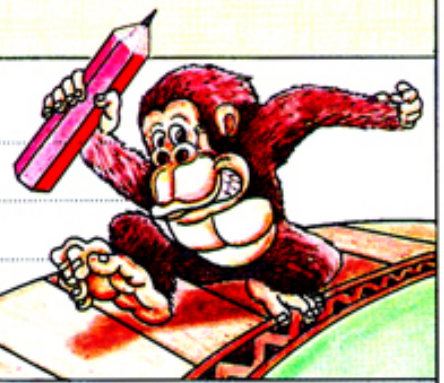
SCHOOL.....

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA

Raj Lakshmi

GOKULAM



NAME.....

STANDARD.....

SUBJECT.....

SCHOOL.....

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA

Raj Lakshmi

RAHUL'S DOUBT

D. Deepthy, Std. VII,
VRMS, Trichy.
Illustration : SUNNY

— The End —

THE *Picnic*

Our school had closed for the summer holidays. My sister and I had a whole month ahead of us. Two days after the holidays began my sister left for our uncle's house.

Soon, however, things changed for me too. One of my friends suggested that we could go on an overnight picnic to a nearby grove. Her father owned the grove. She said there was a small house inside the grove. A watchman took care of the place when the family didn't visit it. Three other girls teamed up with us.

My father's driver drove us to the grove. He was a strange man. If he found something funny, he'd laugh and nothing could make him stop!

On our way to the grove, he remained grim. None of our jokes elicited any laughter from him. But suddenly on seeing a pig he began to laugh. He laughed so much that I had to pour my jug of water on his head to make him shut up.

We reached the grove at noon. We enjoyed climbing trees and bringing down fruits. That evening we explored the dilapidated building close to the grove.

Cobwebs hung everywhere and some rooms had no doors! We decided to have a moonlight picnic in the grove that night, and to further explore the dilapidated building.

We gobbled our food as we chatted. I finished before the others and decided to go for a walk. Just as I neared the building, I noticed a woman. She walked up towards me. I stood rooted to the spot. Terrified I watched. She turned to the wall as if she hadn't noticed me!

Suddenly she walked through the wall. I walked upto the wall. It was a solid structure. I concluded I had been imagining. Just then, the wall gave way and I saw a small chamber. A candle lit the room. A man and the woman in white sari were talking.

I returned to the girls to tell them what I had seen. Together we peeped into the

chamber. Just then there was a gust of wind and the moon went under the clouds and it became too dark to see. We decided to investigate the next day since we had no torch lights.

Next morning we entered the building and explored the wall. We waited just as the woman had waited last night. We almost gave up. Suddenly the wall moved and we entered the room. The room lead into two other rooms. One room contained a large number of containers. There was a ventilator far above from the ground. The other room was empty.

My friends were still looking into the containers. I decided to look into the other rooms. I was in the next room looking around. I didn't hear anything. My friends must have walked away. I was standing inside the room when I felt an arm on my shoulder.

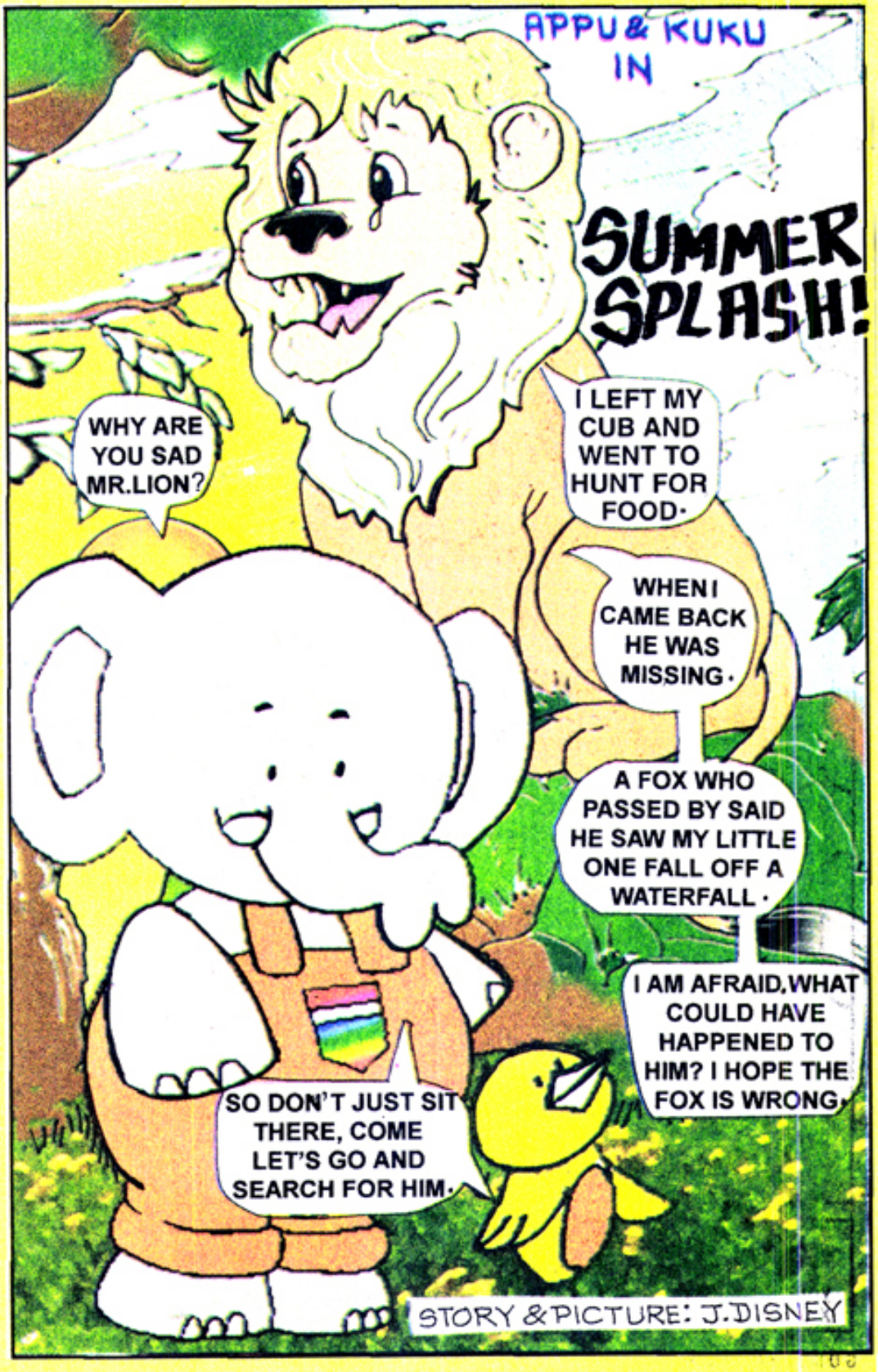
It was the woman. She asked me who I was. I was so terrified that I took nearly 10 minutes to say "I'm Sudha." The woman looked around the room and without a word she went out, shut the door and bolted

it! I was imprisoned! I pounded on the door. But no one came to my rescue.

I looked around. The room had only a ventilator high above the ground. There was a rope in one corner of the room. I threw the rope onto the ventilator. I then climbed up the rope. Just as I reached the ventilator, the door opened. Police!

My friends were also with them. I was helped down. My friends said the couple I had seen yesterday had been taken into custody. They were dealing in narcotics. The watchman who had accompained them said, had he known about our plans, he would have warned us. My father came to pick us up. We returned home pleased with our adventure. But I was sure my father was not all that pleased with our adventure! He even vowed that he'd never ever let us go on a picnic all by ourselves.

Sudha Ranganathan, age 15,
Manavabharathi,
New Delhi


APPU & KUKU IN
SUMMER SPLASH!
WHY ARE YOU SAD MR.LION?
I LEFT MY CUB AND WENT TO HUNT FOR FOOD.
WHEN I CAME BACK HE WAS MISSING.
A FOX WHO PASSED BY SAID HE SAW MY LITTLE ONE FALL OFF A WATERFALL.
I AM AFRAID, WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM? I HOPE THE FOX IS WRONG.
SO DON'T JUST SIT THERE, COME LET'S GO AND SEARCH FOR HIM.
STORY & PICTURE: J.DISNEY

Arriving at the Waterfall

CONTEST FOR UNDER 10s

Colour this scene. Send in your entries to the address given on Pg. 80. Include your name, age, name of school and full house address. Last date June 15. Xerox copies allowed.

• Venus Williams, Serena Williams is in the background.

Serena beat Martina Hingis of Switzerland in two straight sets. Venus beat five time Lipton champion Steffi Graf of Germany in two straight sets.

The men's title went to Richard Kajicek, a Dutch. It is Kajicek's 17th career title. The prize money is $360,000. Kajicek has dedicated his trophy to his one year old daughter. Kajicek won the trophy on his daughter's birthday.

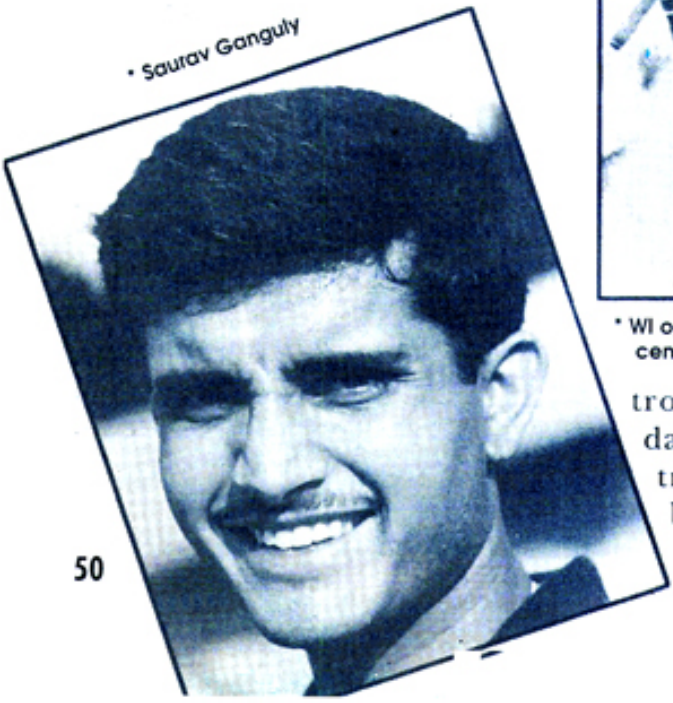
SPORTS PAGE

Tennis

Serena Williams and Venus Williams clashed for the Lipton championship title. Serena lost out to Venus. Earlier to reach the finals

* WI opener Sherwin Campbell who made a century against Australia in the third test.

• Saurav Ganguly



Cricket

Windies make it

After a long time the West Indies won a test match. Brian Lara brought victory to his country when he won the third test match against Australia. Brian Lara's personal score was 150. WI opener Sherwin Campbell who made a century against Australia in the third test helped Windies cruise to victory.

* The gold medallion with Sachin Tendulkar's face on it. The medallion was designed to commemorate the upcoming World Cup.

India's hopes

Though Kumble has equalled Jim Laker's record, it hasn't done much to boost the Indian team's morale. India lost to Pakistan in the recent match. So far they have won only one match. That was against Srilanka.

Kapil Dev's advice is to take the singles right under the bowler's nose. He also says that batsmen should score as much as they can in the first 15 overs. Let us hope our players will take the advice to heart.

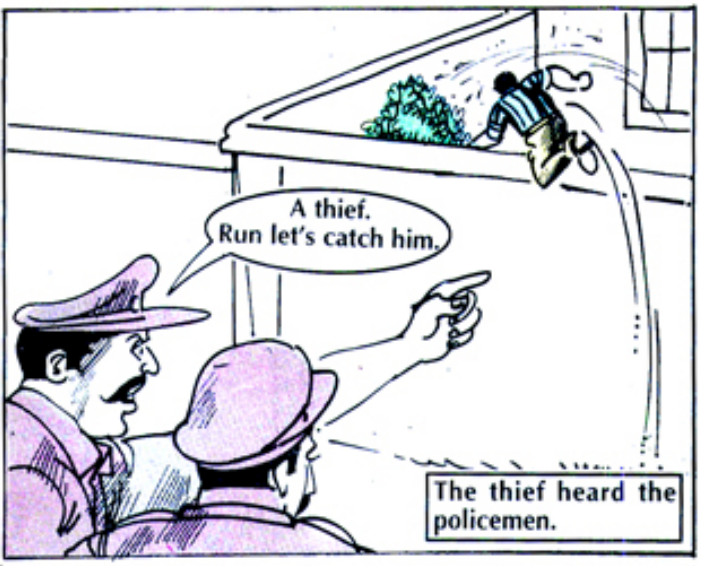
Saurav Ganguli did India proud when he was declared the man of the series in the Pepsi Triangular series.

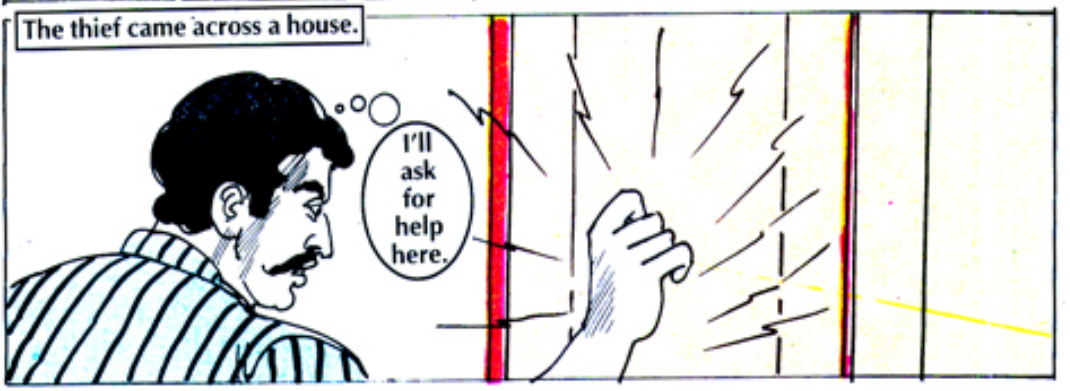
There's a silver lining, however. Sachin Tendulkar has made India proud once again. This time it was not for scoring winning runs. His face is featured on a gold medallion. The medallion has been launched to commemorate the World Cup. The medallion is priced Rs. 4,500. It was designed by an Australian goldsmith, Stuart Devlin. Mr. Devlin made the 2000 Sydney Olympics commemoration coins.

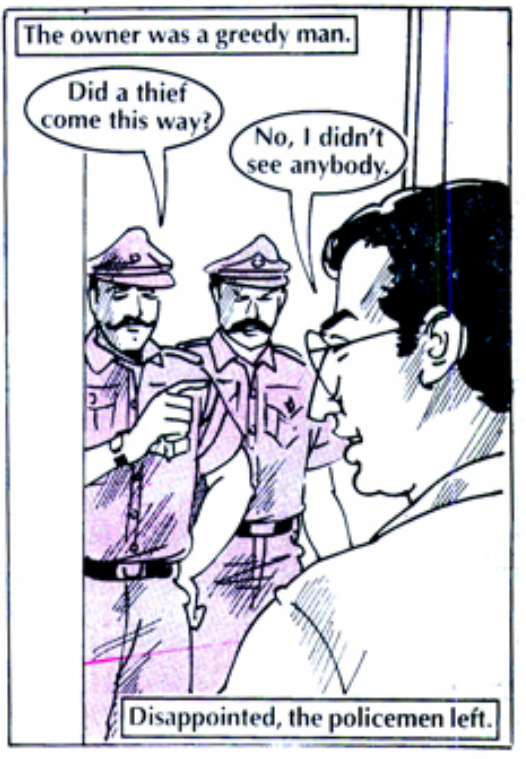
THE THIEF

Story : KOLAR KRISHNA IYER

Illustration : SASI







The policemen have gone. Now you are safe.
OK. Give me my share of the jewellery.
You greedy fellow, you don't deserve anything.
Give me the keys to the safe.
The house owner regretted protecting a criminal.
Thank you for your help!

VIEWPOINT

FRUITS vs CHOCO-LATES

I happened to overhear a conversation between two boys. One of them had Rs.10 in his hand. He said, "I am going to buy chocolates." The other boy said, "Why chocolates? Buy fruits, instead." And so finally the boy was persuaded to spend his money on fruits.

Chocolates are bad for health. At the most, they provide only energy and in the process spoil the health of our teeth. On the other hand, fruits give us energy and add to the vitamin content of our body.

Instead of asking our parents to buy us chocolates when we pass exams or score well in a match, would it not be suitable to ask them to get us our favourite fruit? A healthy body and a healthy mind are an asset always.

V. Akila, age 13,
Jawahar Vidhyalaya, Chennai

FRIENDLY NEIGHBOUR

We have only been talking of friendly relations with Pakistan. After almost half a century of skirmishes and fights, it is a good sign that the people of India and Pakistan have decided to become friends. It will mean peace and also prosperity. It is time that our country known so long for its legends becomes known as a land of peace.

S. Babu, IX G, Gill Adarsh, Chennai

COMMUNAL CLASHES

India has a rich past with so many rulers of different religions ruling over the country. Yet, today we have communal clashes.

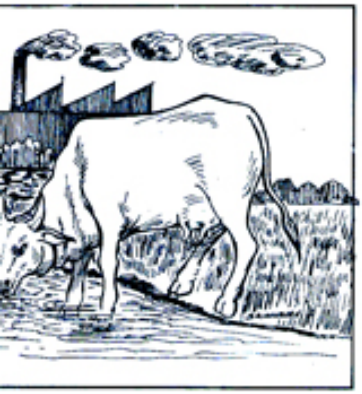
We have accommodated many religions. Should we not learn to accept it as inevitable? Why are we letting our

• *A lost match for India did not bother spectators of Chennai.*

religious differences create troubles for us?

Islam has been one of India's religions for almost a thousand years. Christianity has been a part of the Indian subcontinent for almost 400 years now. Isn't it strange that we still regard them as foreign religions when they have even been accepted by law?

K. Sabarish,
IX A, B.B.M.S. School, Salem



Save our future

Plants are called primary products. Plant eating animals like cows, deers and rabbits are called primary consumers. Flesh eating animals are called secondary consumers.

If we cut down forests. primary consumers are bound to die due to lack of food. Secondary consumers will automatically suffer.

Water is mainly polluted by factories. The fish living in polluted water will pollute fish eaters too, in turn. Animals drinking this water also end up getting polluted.

If we stopped cutting trees and polluting water bodies we may have a better future.

V. Nallasivan, Std VII,
SJSSJ School, Tirunelveli

Strange but true

* Napoleon

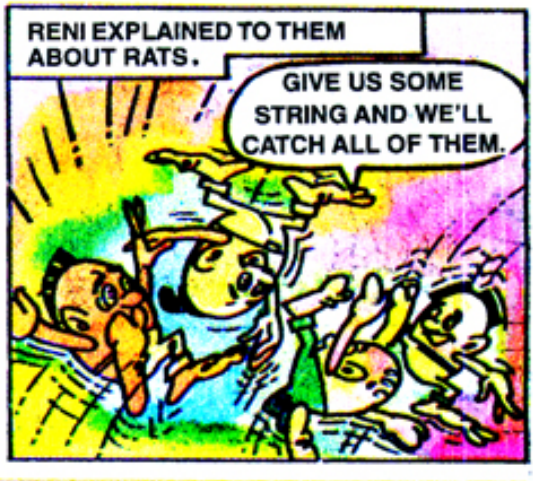
Napoleon was born in 1769
Hitler in 1889,
the difference is 120 years.
Napoleon came to power in 1804
Hitler in 1933,
the difference is 129 years.
Napoleon occupied Vienna in 1809
Hitler in 1938,
the difference is 129 years.
Napoleon took over Russia in 1812
Hitler in 1941,
the difference is 129 years.
Napoleon was defeated in 1815
Hitler in 1945,
the difference is 130 years.

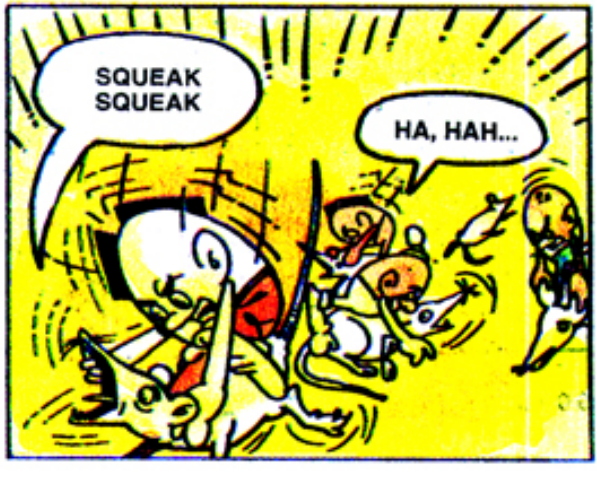
* Hitler

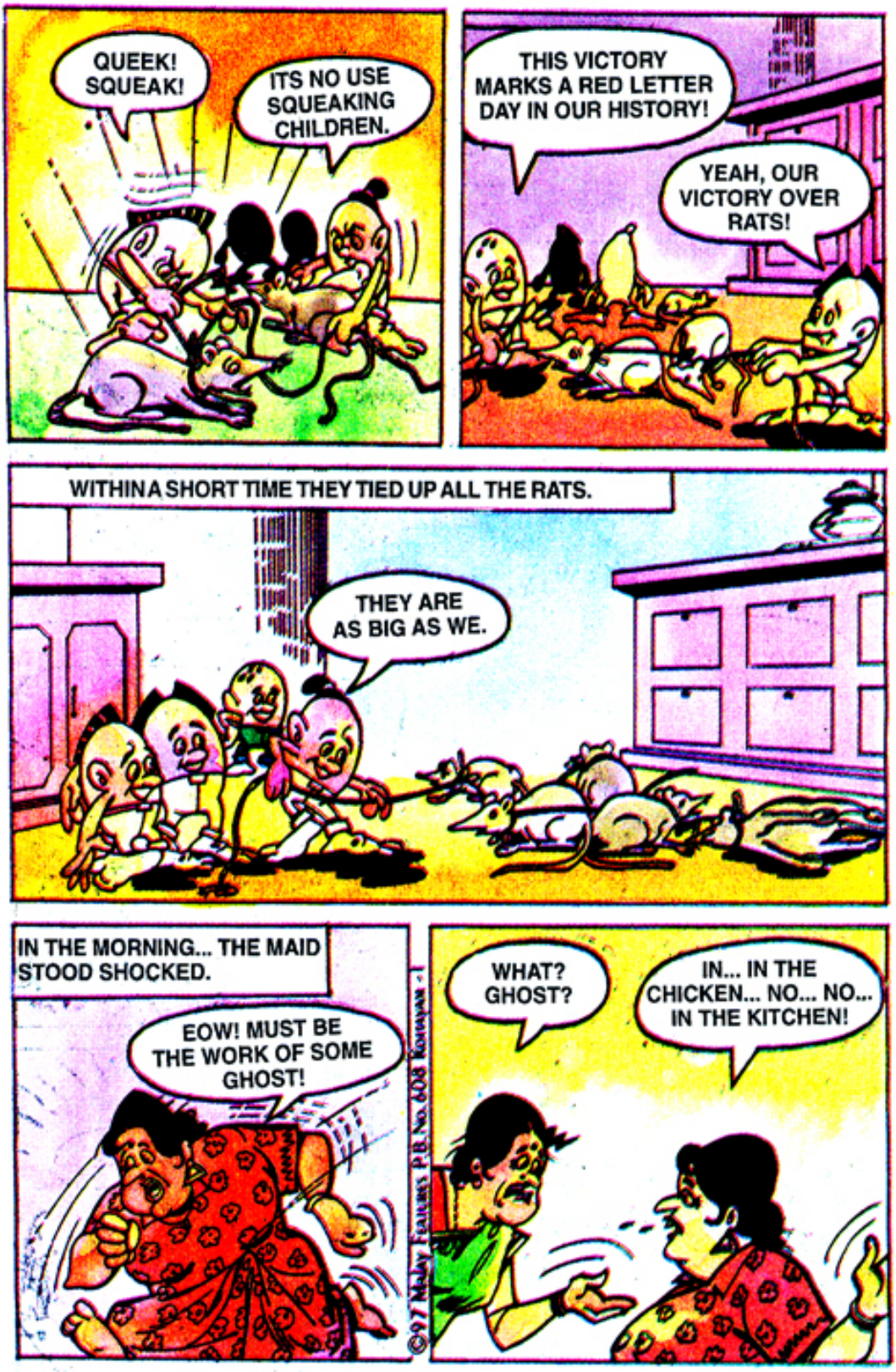
D. Srilatha,
SPM
Kalasa,
Hyderabad

BALLTOONS 6

SCRIPT - CHALAM · ART - CJ ROY






QUEEK! SQUEAK!
ITS NO USE SQUEAKING CHILDREN.
THIS VICTORY MARKS A RED LETTER DAY IN OUR HISTORY!
YEAH, OUR VICTORY OVER RATS!
WITHIN A SHORT TIME THEY TIED UP ALL THE RATS.
THEY ARE AS BIG AS WE.
IN THE MORNING... THE MAID STOOD SHOCKED.
EOW! MUST BE THE WORK OF SOME GHOST!
©97 Malay Features P.B. No. 608 Kottayam
WHAT? GHOST?
IN... IN THE CHICKEN... NO... NO... IN THE KITCHEN!

TO CONTINUE...

THE LOTTERY TICKET

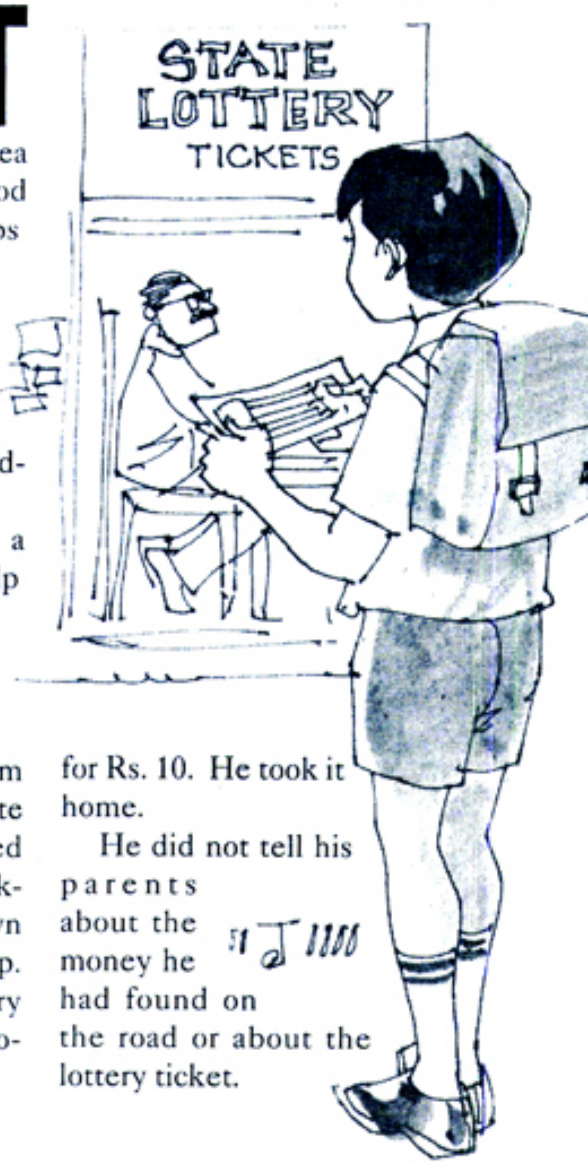
Mohan's father owned a tea stall. The tea stall stood close to a hotel. Perhaps because of this, not many customers visited the stall. Yet, Mohan's father somehow managed to earn enough money to send his son to a good school. His parents were hard-working and frugal with money.

Mohan studied well. He was a bright boy. Yet he could not help thinking often that money was indeed a magic word. He believed money could buy him all that he needed in life.

One day, on his way back from school, he noticed a ten rupee note lying on the road. Mohan looked around. There was nobody. He picked up the note. As he walked down the road, he noticed a lottery shop. The man was saying, "Buy a lottery today, you can be a lakhpathi tomorrow."

He had seen many people frequent the shop. He knew what a lottery ticket was. He walked into the shop and bought a ticket for Rs. 10. He took it home.

He did not tell his parents about the money he had found on the road or about the lottery ticket.



That night he lay in his bed wondering how to find out if his ticket had been chosen for the prize. He knew the results were published in a certain newspaper. His father wouldn't lend him money to buy a newspaper. He thought for long.

Then he decided he would steal money from his father. The paper cost Rs. 3. He tiptoed to where his father had left his shirt. He then went through his father's shirt pockets. His heart pounded as he removed three rupees from his father's shirt pocket.

The next day he stopped by a newspaper mart. He bought the newspaper that he knew published the results of the lottery draw.

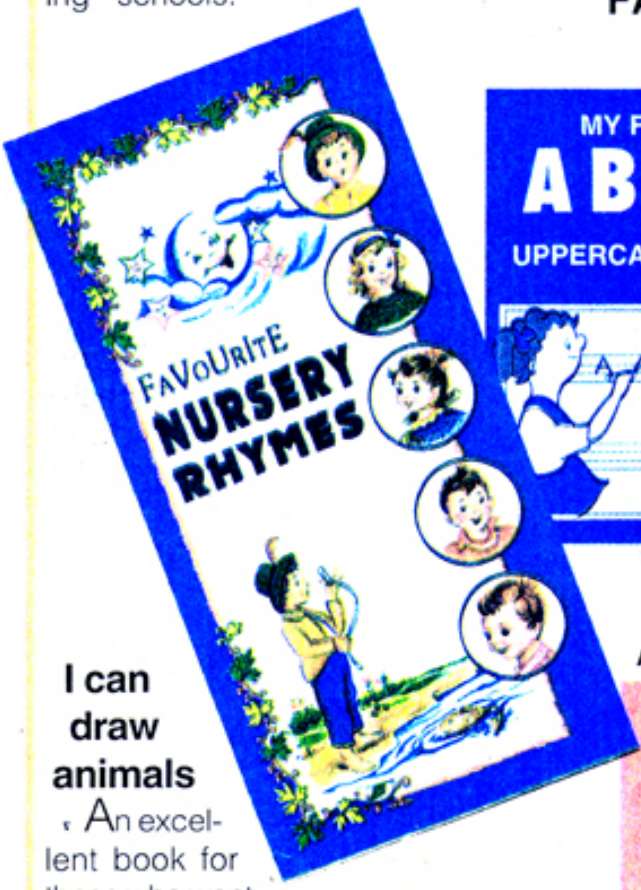
He sat under a tree and went through the paper. He was not used to reading such large numbers. It took him a long time. After going through the list of winners, he realised that his ticket had not won the lottery draw. He realised it was too late to go to school.

He had missed school and had become a thief too! He was ashamed of himself. All for a mere lottery ticket! That evening he told his father everything. His father forgave him and Mohan has since then learnt to be honest.

K. Ravi, age 14,
Springfield MHS, Chennai.

FOR YOUR BOOKSHELF

For those entering school, learning rhymes is a long process. MCC Publications, Bangalore makes learning easier for beginners. They have published a set of books aimed at tiny tots entering schools.



I can draw animals

An excellent book for those who want to learn to draw; with simple techniques that will help children to draw with ease. It is priced Rs.30.

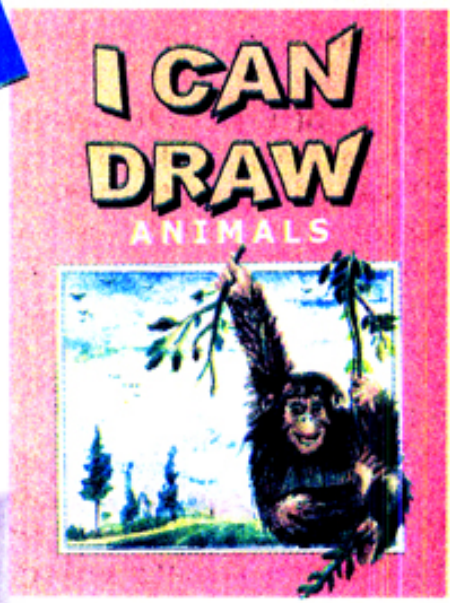
MY FIRST ABC's

This comes in two attractive colours - red and blue. It has 'wipe clean pages' which will help children to wipe clean with a soft, damp cloth and rewrite on the pages. This book is designed for children learning to write uppercase and lowercase letters. It is priced Rs. 18.

FAVOURITE NURSERY RHYMES

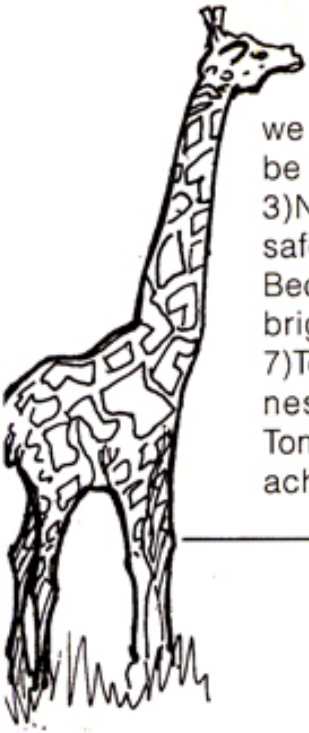
This book contains 38 popular nursery rhymes. It is colourfully illustrated and is priced Rs. 20.

These books are available in Chennai at **M.C.C Publication, A Wing, IV Floor, Flat No.2, Parsn Manare, No. 602, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 006**



FOR YOUR BOOKSHELF

ANSWER PAGE



1) One we wear and other we were. 2) Because you may be shocked if it arrives on time. 3)Nothing, because it was a safety pin.4) Croak-a-Cola. 5) Because the students were too bright. 6) It's too far to walk. 7)To get 3 in 1 benefits - laziness, fashion, & savings. 8) Ton.9) A giraffe.10) An atomic-ache.

Sports quiz

Ans: 1) 16, 2) 26 miles, 385 yards or 42.19 km, 3) Australia, 4) Javed Miandad, 5) Strohov Stadium in Prague (Czechoslovakia), 6) 18, 7) Judo, 8) 11, 9) 3, 10) Donny Morrison

Decode the message

a) The face of a clock

b) Monkeys

Do you know these studies?

1. Study of stars associated with man's destiny

2. Study of ethics

3. Study of earth's physical matter

4. Study of human development

5. Study of animals

6. Study of language

7. Study of measuring time

8. Study of human mind

9. Study of precious gems

10. Study of poisons.

Ramya B.J,
Std VII,
VVSGC School, Bangalore

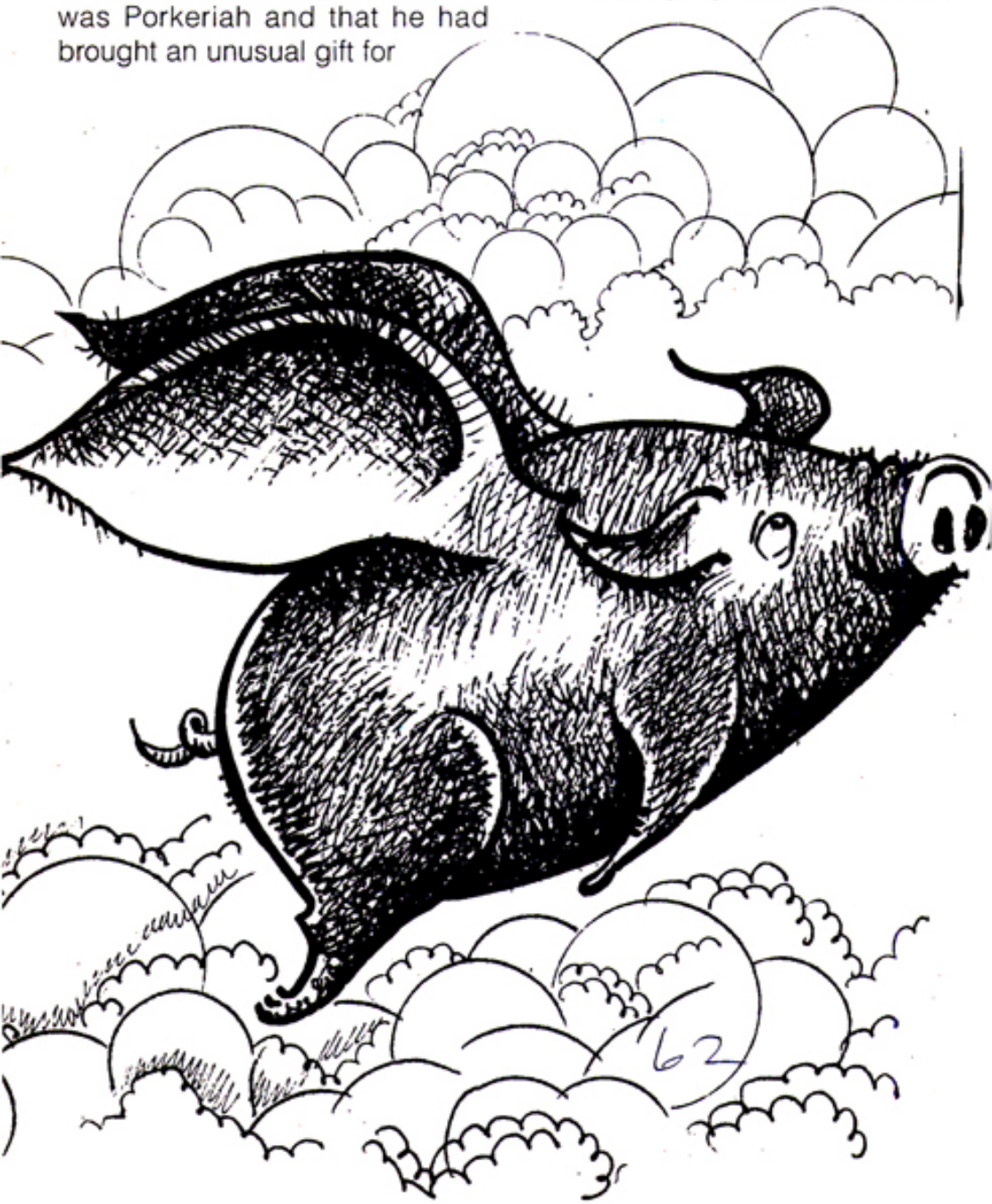
Answers:- 1. Astrology 2. Theology, 3. Geology, 4. Sociology, 5. Zoology, 6. Philology, 7. Horology, 8. Psychology, 9. Gemmology, 10. Toxicology

King Jayabalan's birthday was celebrated with pomp and gaiety every year. Preparations usually began a couple of months before the day.

Once, when people were preparing for the event, a stranger visited Jayabalpore. He said his name was Porkeriah and that he had brought an unusual gift for the king.

Since the king was very fond of receiving gifts, the stranger was immediately taken to the palace. When he was brought before the king, the king was with a few of his ministers.

"Your majesty" said Solmannan,



the minister for publicity, who had brought the stranger in. "This is Porkeriah. He wants to give an unusual gift for your birthday."

The king beamed with pleasure. "Where do you come from, my good man?" the king asked.

Porkeriah turned around to see whether anyone else was being addressed, for he wasn't accustomed to being referred to as a 'good man'. "I am from Panriyoor, your majesty" he said bowing very low.

"And what gift have you brought for his majesty?" asked Sigainasam, the home minister. The king nodded and smiled approvingly at Sigainasam, and turned eagerly to Porkeriah.

A PIG WITH WINGS

"A pig" said Porkeriah.

"What?!" Sigainasam exclaimed.

"A pig!" said Ayalaan, the minister for foreign affairs.

"You mean a real pig?" said Varisumai, the finance minister.

"How dare you insult the king thus!" Sigainasam shouted.

"Take this man away and hang him" said the king.

"Wait, your majesty" said Porkeriah hurriedly. "This is no ordinary pig."

"However extraordinary, a pig is a pig" said Ayalaan.

"This is a pig that can fly!"

"What!" said everyone in astonishment.

"It is a pig with wings" said Porkeriah.

"How far does it fly - twenty yards, one mile, ten feet - how far?" Varisumai asked.

"Maybe it just leaps from one corner of the room to the other" said Ayalaan.

"No, no your excellencies" Porkeriah said. "Icarus can fly

around the world if necessary."

"Who is this Icarus?" Sigainasam asked.

"That's the pig's name, my lord" said Porkeriah smiling broadly.

"A strange name" the king muttered.

"It is taken from Greek mythology, your majesty. Icarus was a youth who fixed wings of wax to himself and soared in the air. Unfortunately he flew too close to the sun, and the wax melted, and he crashed down to his death."

"I presume your pig's wings are not made of wax" said Ayalaan drily.

"My Icarus has natural wings, your excellency."

"Let's see this pig of yours" said Solmannan.

"I beg your indulgence in this matter" said Porkeriah rubbing his hands together as if he were washing them. "I wish to present my pig as a surprise on his majesty's brithday. I hope to have a large crowd waiting for the surprise gift - and then, Presto! - there will be Icarus flying above their heads round and round in circles of a two-mile radius. What a great sensation that would be!"

"Are you sure that it will fly?" Sigainasam asked.

"Noble sirs, I have flown Icarus to Afghanistan and Persia. I wanted to fly

to Egypt to see the Pyramids, but decided to gift Icarus to his majesty instead."

"So now the king can fly to Egypt" said Ayalaan in a whisper to Varisumai.

"If the pig is not available, he can fly on the back of this Porkeriah" Ayalaan said in a low voice.

"He looks like a pig who has just remembered a joke" said Varisumai. They both chuckled.

"You mean I can fly to other countries on this Picarus?" the king asked.

"Icarus, your majesty" said Porkeriah. Of course, you can touch the ends of this earth. South Pole, North Pole, Equatorial countries, China, Japan - the sky's the limit."

The king was excited. "Anywhere in the world?" he asked eagerly.

"Anywhere, your majesty. And Icarus eats very little - for a pig, that is. So your trips will be economical."

At this point Sigainasam bent down near the king and whispered in his ear : "Let us not miss this opportunity, your majesty. The pig can put us among the top nations of the world."

"Just what I was thinking" the king said. "Porkeriah, we will be glad to accept Scarus as a gift."

"Icarus, your majesty" said Porkeriah. "I am deeply honoured. But I will need some funds to transport Icarus from my town."

"Oh, oh" Ayalaan said to Varisumai. "There's the catch."

"Let's hope the king is not taken for a ride by the pig" said Varisumai.

"Varisumai, please pay this man all that he wants" said Sigainasam.

Varisumai shrugged his shoulders.

"If you could ask all your citizens to assemble in the Jayabal Maidan on your birthday, I will have Icarus come flying on the dot."

"That can be done" said Solmannan.

I would like to have a percentage in all the food stalls and other shops set up in the maidan" said Porkeriah.

"That is only fair" said Sigainasam.

"After all, I should get something

Teacher: Name a great man who was born in our city.

Gopal: Sir, only babies are born in our city.

Pratik Jakharia, age 13, V.P.M.Eng.HS. Mumbai

out of all this, shouldn't I" said Porkeriah with a cute smile.

"Right, right" said Solmannan.

And so it was decided that the flying pig would come flying along on the king's birthday after a good crowd had assembled in the Jayabal Maidan.

This news spread like wildfire, and there was great excitement in the capital city of Jayabalpore. Everyone wanted to be there to see the pig fly.

Thousands of shopkeepers put up stalls in the maidan two or three weeks before the event. Porkeriah went around collecting a huge amount from each stall. The stall owners did not grudge this, for they anticipated enormous profits.

Porkeriah had also collected a large sum from the finance minister, and from those who wanted to sit at vantage points. He issued tickets to those who wanted chairs, collecting a high fee and assuring them of good comfortable chairs.

By the time the King's brithday arrived Porkeriah had amassed a fortune.

Eventually the great day dawned. People were pouring into the capital from neighbouring towns and villages. Some came even from other countries.

The Jayabal Maidan was overflowing with people on the dawn of the king's birthday. Many had come the previous night itself to secure vantage seats. It was one seething mass of humanity.

The ministers arrived around 8 AM and took their seats. They were all carrying gifts and garlands for the king.

And then the king came in a coach drawn by four white horses, and accompanied by a military band.

There was chanting, cheering and slogan-shouting. The stalls did brisk business.

And everyone was looking at the sky, expecting a pig to come flying along.

They looked and they looked and they looked. And they waited and waited. But no pig in the sky.

And then it dawned on them that the king's birthday was on the first day of the fourth month.

So they laughed and they laughed and they laughed.

But Porkeriah had had the last laugh.

JANAKAN

Teacher: Why are you weeping my child?

Student: I swallowed an object.

Teacher: What was it?

Student: A banana.

Anup Bhat,
VII Std,
Bangalore

ADAMANT AKBAR

Once a man was apprehended for a severe offence. He was brought to emperor Akbar's court. The king who heard the case ordered that the offender be hanged.

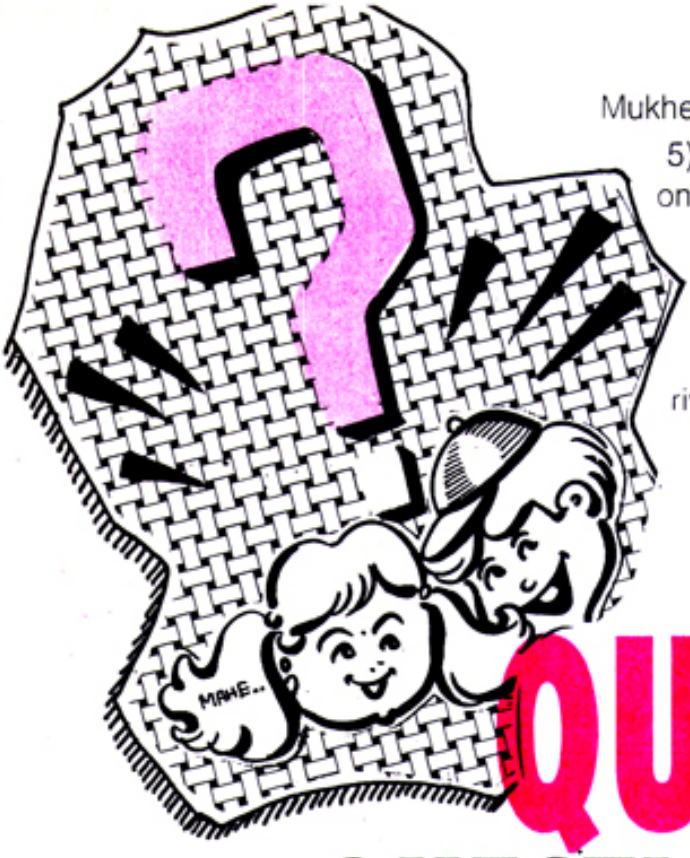
The poor man pleaded against the statement. Finally the offender said, "Oh king, please grant me a wish. I want to see Birbal." The king granted the wish.

Birbal visited the offender in jail. When he heard of the man's crime he understood that the punishment meted to the criminal was too heavy.

He approached the king and told him, "My lord, free this man." This annoyed Akbar. "I shall do just the opposite of what you want," the king said.

"If that is so then hang the man" Birbal said. Akbar was taken aback by Birbal's words and set the man free.

Sudipta Nandi, age 9, Christopher Day School, Kharagpur.



QUIZ QUESTIONS

1) The artificial skin called the "omiderm" was developed by surgeons of which country?

(a) India (b) America (c) Britain (d) Israel

2) What is the capital of Bolivia?

(a) Capetown (b) Madrid (c) Lapaz (d) Harare

3) Who was the founder of Table Tennis?

(a) Boccacio (b) V. Ramanujam (c) C.R. Das (d) James Gib

4) Who was the first Indian woman to become "Miss World" ?

(a) Aiswarya (b) Rita Faria (c) Sushmita Sen (d) Namrata Mukherjee

5) "Jamshedpur" is situated on which river?

(a) Yamuna (b) Ganga (c) Brahmaputra (d) Subarnrekha

(6) Which is the longest river in Europe ?

(a) Si-kang (b) Olga (c) Rhine (d) Spree

7) Which is the state rich in diamond mines?

a) U.P (b) A.P (c) M.P (d) H.P

8) What is noormathi in Assam famous for?

(a) Tea (b) Oil refineries (c) Crafts (d) Coffee

9) Where are motors manufactured in large numbers?

(a) Britain (b) Spain (c) India (d) America

10) Which is the first Indian artificial satellite to go in space?

(a) Aryabatta (b) Apple (c) INSAT (d) Rohini

C. Durga, Hyderabad

Answers: 1) d 2)c 3)d 4)b 5)d 6)b 7)c 8)b 9) d 10) a

CREATIVE CORNER

A HUT ON YOUR DESK

You need :

4 thermocol slabs of 20 cm length and 10 cm breadth , fevicol, rubber band, straws, needle and thread.

Method 1 :

Paste the thermocol like a house and cut out a door in front of the house.

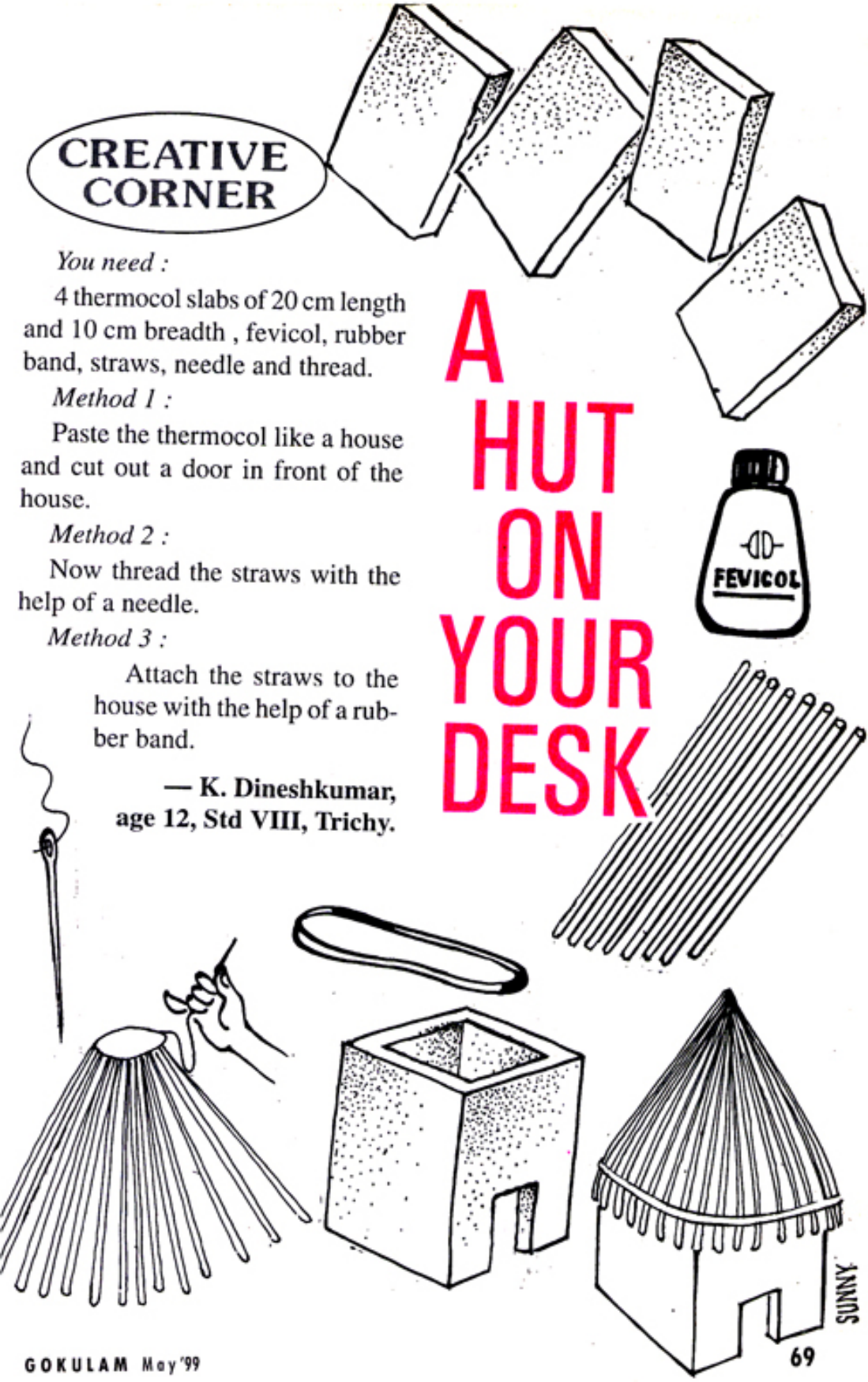
Method 2 :

Now thread the straws with the help of a needle.

Method 3 :

Attach the straws to the house with the help of a rubber band.

— K. Dineshkumar, age 12, Std VIII, Trichy.



POLLUTION

Air pollution, water pollution, noise pollution,
O! what are these different kinds of pollution?
They are causing me so much confusion!
Air is spoilt and full of dust, that's air pollution,
About the hazards no one has the solution.
Noxious gases fill the atmosphere,
It causes only trouble to life in lithosphere.
Water washes along all man-made
Dirt into ponds and rivers;
Effluents and dirt cannot all be filtered.
Man and animal drink unpotable water,
And all end up sick in hospital quarters!

Noise pollution comes from
Screaming horns of cars and buses;
Too much of it makes us yell curses,
Our ears turn deaf and we raise our voice,
To cry hoarse, "Don't make noise!"
What can we do to prevent pollution?
To make the world livable, find a new solution
Let's create a better world, else
We'll be left only with a pounding pulse!

Raksha Khope, Std XI (science),
Smt. Parvatibai Chougule College of Arts and Science,
Margao Salcette,
Goa

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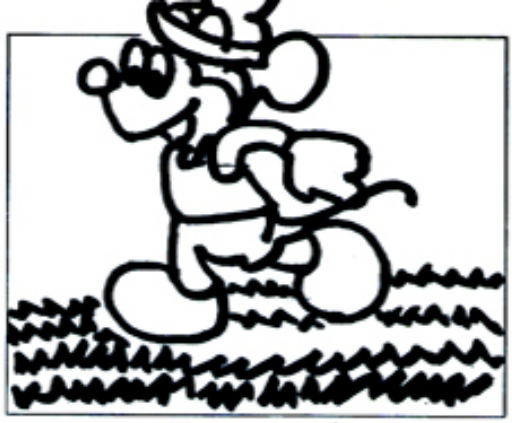
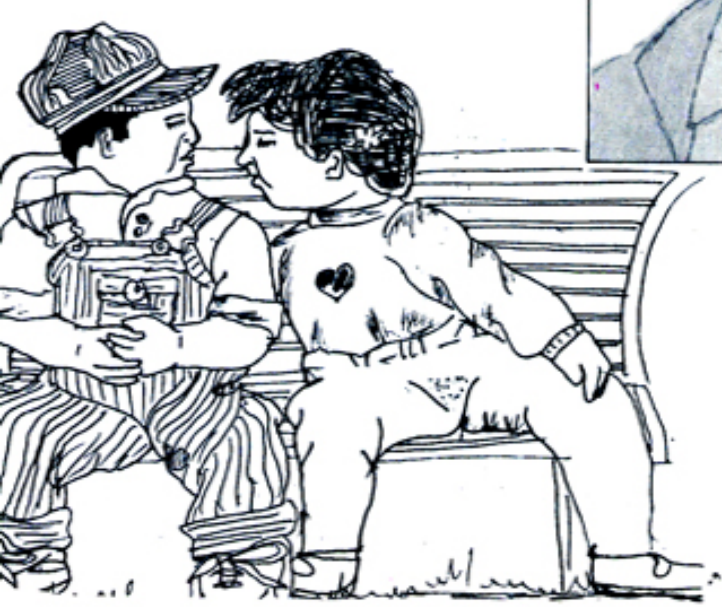
Gokul P. Sanker,
age 9,
Peroorkada,
Trivandrum
Dear Gokul, pl. send your full address.

R. Sadhana,
VII A, Saraswati Vidhyalaya,
Nagpur

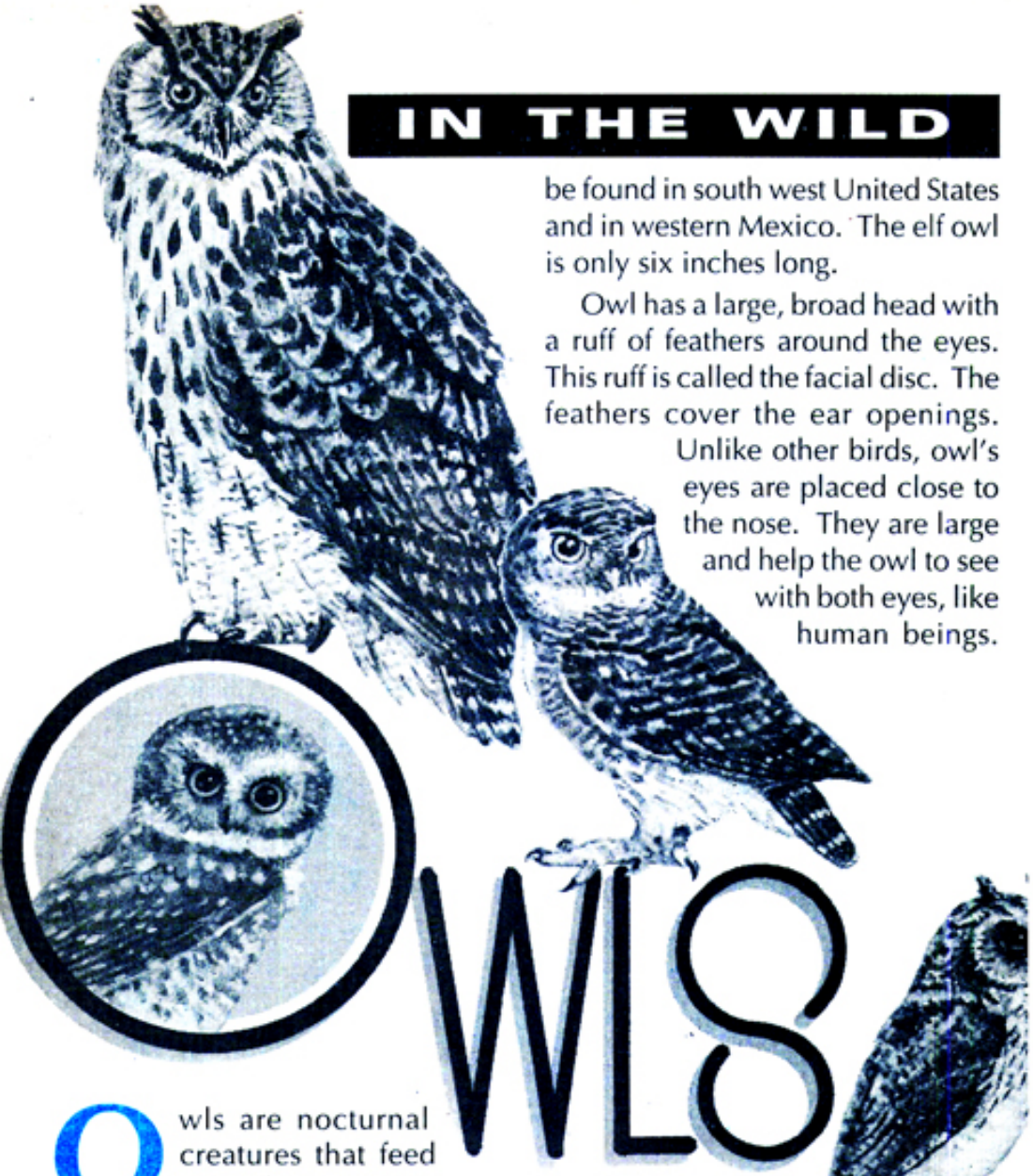


D. Nandini,
age 8,
California

R. Praveen Kumar,
age 14, DTEA School,
N. Delhi



N. Karthikesan,
IX, St. Mary's,
Karaikal



OWLS

Owls are nocturnal creatures that feed on rodents. It is a carnivore. It is often referred to as the 'night watchman of our gardens'. There are about 525 kinds of owls which live throughout the temperate, tropical and subarctic regions. They have also been found on islands far from mainland.

The elf owl is the smallest owl found in the world. The elf owl can be found in south west United States and in western Mexico. The elf owl is only six inches long.

Owl has a large, broad head with a ruff of feathers around the eyes. This ruff is called the facial disc. The feathers cover the ear openings. Unlike other birds, owl's eyes are placed close to the nose. They are large and help the owl to see with both eyes, like human beings.

Unlike man, owl cannot move its eyes in its socket. It has to turn its head.

They have long lashes on their upper eyelids. They can use their lashes to cover their eyes. For ages people have considered owl to be the wisest of birds. Ancient Greeks

thought owl was sacred to Athene, their goddess of wisdom. Indians associate owl with goddess Lakshmi.

Actually, crows, geese and ravens have been found to be more intelligent than owls.

Bird watchers often wonder if owls belong to the hawk family. They have short bodies, thick hooked beaks, sharp claws and strong feet. Some owls have tufts of feather on their head. It is called ears or horns. Their feathers make them appear larger than they are. Their plumage is dull and hence they are easily camouflaged.

Owl's feathers are curled at the edge. When they fly, the swishing sound that one hears when birds fly cannot be heard. At night when owl hunts for its food, it can swoop down noiselessly on its prey. They can see during daytime. Some owls, are however, not able to see well. There are species of owls that hunt both by day and by night.

Owls feed mostly on mammals. Larger owls catch rabbits and squirrels while smaller ones prey on mice, rats and shrews. They hunt for their food and do not scavenge.

They will fish in shallow waters. Owls eat much like hawks eat their prey. They swallow small prey and then throw up fur, scales and feathers which are indigestible.

They are farmer's friends. They rarely prey on hens or chicks. They only eat moles, rats and mice.

They don't build good nests. They roost in barns or hollows of trees, or in burrows. They also make the old nests of hawks and crows their abode.

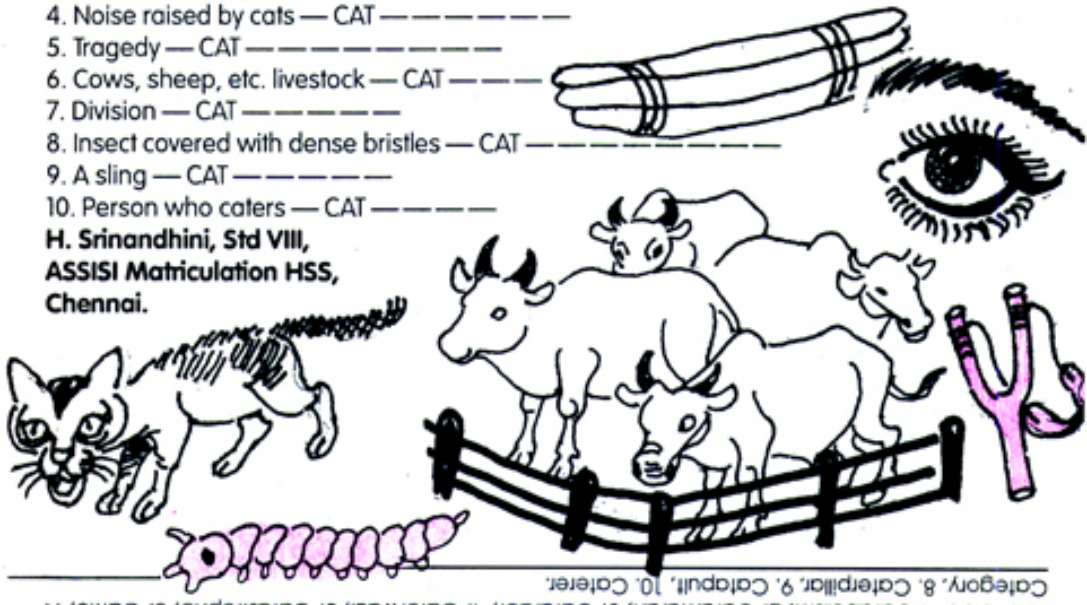
Owl eggs are small and round. They have a white tinge with a light blue or buff on the shell. They usually lay anywhere between three to four eggs. They have been known to lay as many as 12

CAT QUIZ

Find out the words that begin with the word 'CAT' with the help of the given clues:

1. Process of breaking protoplasm into simpler substances — CAT — — — — — — — —
2. A country raft — CAT — — — — — — —
3. Disease of the eye — CAT — — — — —
4. Noise raised by cats — CAT — — — — — —
5. Tragedy — CAT — — — — — — — — —
6. Cows, sheep, etc. livestock — CAT — — —
7. Division — CAT — — — — —
8. Insect covered with dense bristles — CAT — — — — — — — — — —
9. A sling — CAT — — — — —
10. Person who caters — CAT — — — —

H. Srinandhini, Std VIII,
ASSISI Matriculation HSS,
Chennai.



Answers : 1. Catabolism, 2. Catamaran, 3. Cataract, 4. Caterwaul, 5. Catastrophe, 6. Cattle, 7. Category, 8. Caterpillar, 9. Catapult, 10. Caterer.

eggs.

Both male and female owls care for the nest. Owls can defend themselves against even men when they are threatened. Young owls stay much longer in the nest than other birds. Young owls are fed much the same way as other young chicks.

Certain owls live in barns while other owls live on trees or roofs or belfries. Barn owls are useful to farmers. About 76% of this owl's food is rat and mice. Barn owls usually nest close to human habitat. This owl spends the mornings standing upright and dozing in some dark place. It lays about four to seven eggs. The eggs are white, roundish and smooth.

The brown fish owl nests in woods close to water tracts. This owl's screech has a peculiar ventriloquist quality. Its nest can be identified by the cast-up pellets and remains of birds and small animals.

The Indian great horned owl haunts woody, rocky ravines or shady groves. It avoids heavy forests. This bird nests between November and April. Its eggs are creamy white, broad, roundish ovals with a smooth texture. The bird lays its eggs in a natural recess on a ledge or a cliff or under the shelter of a bush on level ground. An Owl can kill as many rats as thirty cats can!

NEWS BITS

Who's better?

'Time' magazine of New York has found two people running neck and neck for the 'Man of the Century' award. The award instituted by it has asked well-known people to send in their preferences.

While many suggested Mahatma Gandhi a few have suggested Hitler's name. One of them is US ambassador to UN. He says he chose Hitler because of the ongoing conflicts in Rwanda and Kosovo. Hitler is the most evil man and he has left an indelible impression he said!

Skin from hair

German scientists believe that skin can be prepared from hair. Living hairs are pulled out and cells are removed. The cells are then used to breed skin. This skin can be used as graft on wounds.

Why so fat?

People who watch too much TV are called couch potatoes. If you are obese it means you probably watch too much TV. A study in the US has revealed that if children were not allowed to watch TV they lost weight tremendously.

Stuffed cats for adults

A company has developed a stuffed cat that can shut its eyes and shake its head to spoken words.

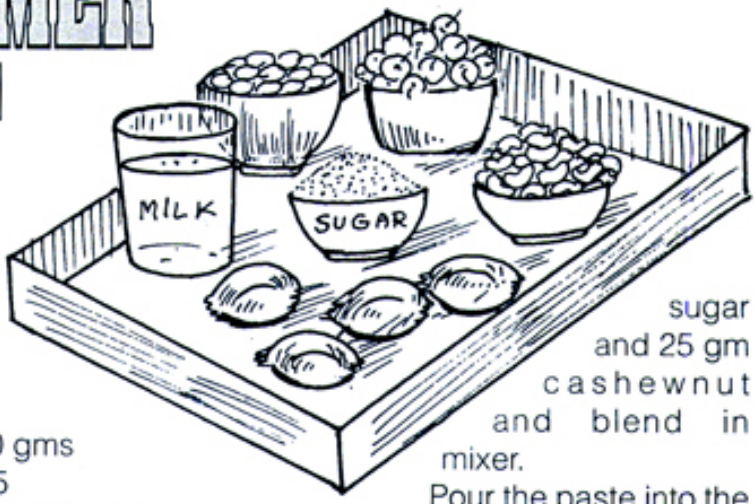
The robotic pet is capable of basic conversation and gestures. A memory chip is embedded in the pet. The chip computes recorded data with the users.

Another satellite in orbit

Insat 2E was put into orbit by an Ariane 42P rocket in April from Korou (in French Guyana). So far, India has launched eight satellites. Of these Insat 1B has been the most successful . Insat 2E will help in weather predictions.

BUDDING CHEF

A SUMMER TREAT



You need:

4 chikkus - medium size

Milk or cream - 1 small cup

Sugar - 4 tsp

Cashewnut - 30 gms

Cherries - 2 to 5

Gems - (different colours)

Method:

Wash chikku thoroughly. Cut chikkus into two. Scoop out the pulp and place the skins on a plate. Add cream / milk to the pulp. Add sugar and 25 gm cashewnut and blend in mixer.

Pour the paste into the outer skins of chikku and freeze for an hour. Decorate with sliced cherries and diced cashewnuts and gems. Serve cold.

Parvathi Sasi, VII B,
St. Teresa's SS, Calcutta.

Tongue - Twisters

Peter piper picked a peck of pickled peppers

If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers,

Where's the peck of pickled peppers

Peter Piper picked?

If a wood chuck could chuck wood,

How much wood would a wood chuck chuck

If a wood chuck could or would chuck wood?

R. Damini, age 14,
Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, School,
Chennai

• A trip to a historical site will help to remember it's history without much effort

IT'S PICNIC TIME

It is summer and the vacations are here. Many of us would have taken a long holiday by the beach front or would have gone to a hill station.

Those who didn't go on a vacation need not sulk. Here's an idea. Gather a few friends. Find an idyllic spot near your town. You could ask your parents to take you to the wooded groves around your town.

Almost all cities and towns have beautiful spots. Arrange for a picnic. When you get there be sure to keep the place clean. If you bring your food hamper then put back all waste into your food hamper. Do not litter the place.

Going on a picnic does not mean merely a heavy lunch. You can have games and even competitions. When you plan a picnic make sure it is not to a very remote place. In case of emergency you must be able to get help. Remain close to the road where there is traffic.

Find a place that has plenty of trees or has a lake or pond or a river nearby. Some cities have hillocks nearby. You could arrange for a day's outing to places of historical interest too.

To make it educative you could even put up a skit at the site and enroll all help you can get from the adults. Imagine a picnic to the Golconda fort. And conjure up images of the days of Moghul rule. If there are five or six of you, enact a skit. You can be certain you will never forget your history lessons that way! Whoever told you history could be boring?

You could also learn a little geography this way. And if you *do* want to think about studies the best thing is to enjoy a lovely picnic!

IMAGE GAME

Identify these images. To which country do they belong?

1

2

3

4

5

6

Ans : 1. Japanese couple with the wife in traditional attire, 2. Judo players, 3. Chopsticks, 4. Bonzai, 5. A Buddhist monk, 6. Samurai.

All these images belong to Japan.

Path breaking INVENTORS

LEONARDO DA VINCI

He was a painter, sculptor, architect, musician, engineer, and scientist, probably the supreme example of Renaissance genius. Born in Vinci, he was the illegitimate son of a Florentine notary and a peasant girl.

This Italian had a vast range of interests, which he pursued, with the mind of a scientist. He left countless anatomical drawings, always accurate, and often based on observations made while dissecting a human body. He almost discovered the principle of circulation of blood.

Leonardo also suggested a flying machine, after a painstaking study of birds. He invented the basic principle for the parachute. As an architect, he designed a dual staircase around a common core, which two people could use without being aware of each other. Unfortunately, his fascinating notebooks were not published until the 19th century.

Leonardo's ideas cound not thus influence the progress of science. His great versatility prevented him from making an important discovery in any one field.

SIR ISAAC NEWTON

One of the greatest scientists of all time, Newton became Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge at the age of 26, because his teacher recognised Newton's exceptional gifts and gave up his own post.

He made the far-reaching discovery of the differential calculus and of the binomial theorem. He designed a revolutionary telescope, and showed that "white" sunlight consists of many colours - the spectrum.

He is perhaps best known for the discovery he said he had made as a result of the fall of an apple. He showed that a universal gravitational force makes the planets revolve around the sun.

J. Disney

OPERATION RESCUE

I had been invited to a friend's birthday party. My friend lived in the lane next to the one in which I lived. I returned from school, dressed in my favourite frock and picked up the gift I had got for my friend. My seven-year-old brother, Akshay also accompanied me.

As my friend's house was not very far, my mother did not accompany us. She told us to be careful. We assured her and left for the party. We had just reached the main gate of our apartment complex when we heard a moan.

We looked around. But we could spot noth-

ing. It had been a cloudy day. It was already past six. In the twilight we couldn't see very much among the bushes. When we saw nothing we decided to walk on. But the moans came again.

A gutter passes outside the gate. we peeped into the gutter. A very small puppy had fallen into it. It was probably only a few days old.

We wondered what we could do. The gutter was full of filth. We couldn't let the puppy die in the gutter. So, we decided to pick up the puppy with our handkerchief. This took a lot of time. The puppy kept slipping from our grasp. Finally we were able to remove the puppy from the gutter.

My dress was spoilt when the puppy in its effort to jump into the nearby bush brushed my dress.

We returned home. I changed into another set of clothes. My brother and I then went to the party. Though we were late we were pleased that we had been able to save a life.

B. Ankita,
age 10,
Mumbai

WINNERS OF CONTEST NO. 9

1. L. Sonia, age 13, Udupi.
2. Abilash Gangadharan, age 12, St. columbus, N. Delhi
3. T. Mohan Vamsi, age 11, Timpany School, Visakhapatnam.
4. G. Akshaya, age 12, Rani Meyammai MS, Puliyur
5. C. Amit, age 10, Hyderabad
6. B. Arundhati, age 15, Chennai
7. Preethi, age 15, Chennai
8. R. Narasimhan, age 14, Modern SSS, Chennai
9. M. Madhumala, age 11, Mysore.
10. Premdeep, age 10, Space Central School, Nellore

The names of the cricketers are
Raman Lamba,
Ravi Shastri,
Abey Kuruvilla,
Md. Azharuddin.

The winners chosen by lot will each receive an M.O for Rs. 10/-

SCHOOL AIRLINES

Pilot	Principal
Co-pilot	Vice principal
Crew	Male teachers
Air hostesses	Female teachers
Passengers	Students
Ground engineers	Office staffs
Take off	09.00 hours (IST) confirmed
Landing	16.00 hours (IST) confirmed
Fare	Fees
Control room	School management
Class	L.K.G to 12
Luggage	School bag
Flight	School's name
Boarding pass	Bell
Security check	Lab
Frequency	Five days a week
For further information	Dial school phone number

S. Jagadish, age 13, Shri Anand Jain Vidhyalaya, Chennai.

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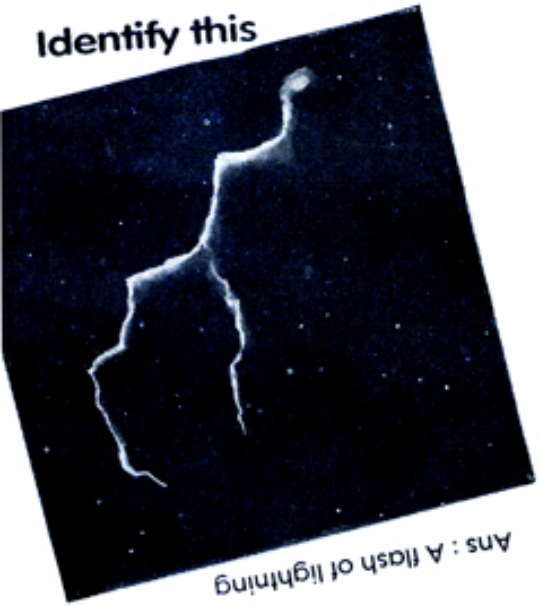
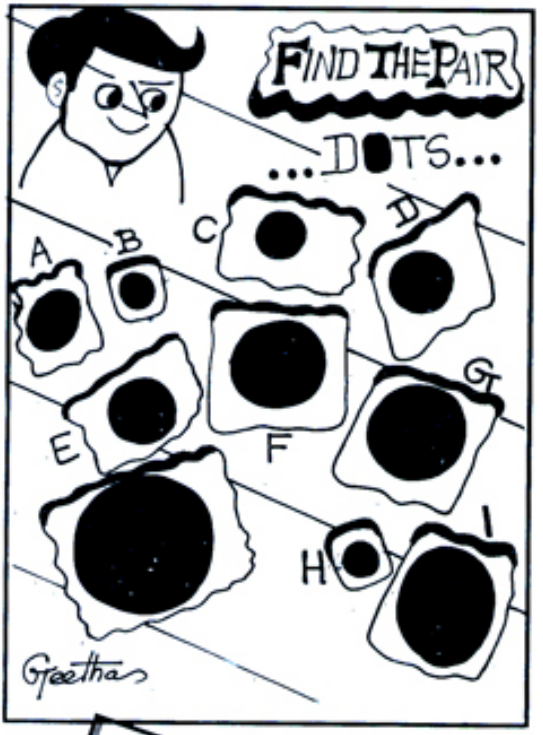
Identify this



Ans : A flash of lighthning

FIND THE PAIR DOTS

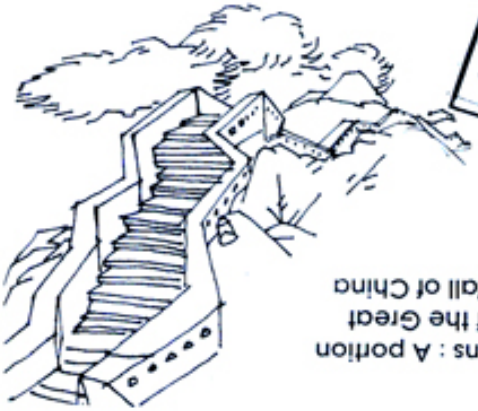


Ans : B, H

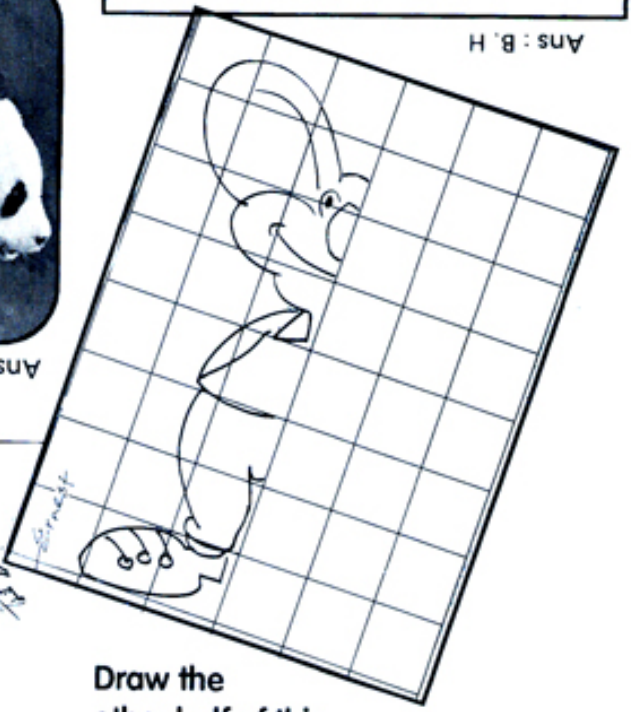
Where is this animal found?

Ans : In China

What is this?



Ans : A portion of the Great Wall of China



Draw the other half of this picture using the lines given here.

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- Investment of Rs. 1,500 made in the name of girl child upto and including age of 1 year can become Rs. 15,000 in 20 years; the actual growth of investment depends on age at entry.
- Date of maturity will depend on date of acceptance of the application.
- Option to withdraw from the plan at the age of 18 years of the girl child.

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